

ARD OF TRADE

Protest Against the Lease of Stewart River for Dredging Purposes.

Mercantile Matters Considered—The Bad Telegraph Service.

Meeting of the council of the board was held at the Board of Trade yesterday afternoon. The speaker committee, appointed some ago to confer with the city council on the progress made in that regard and asked that further information be secured on that subject.

A Kirk reported that the committee on the proposed lease of the Stewart river for dredging purposes had been successful. Hon. Messrs. Turner and Baker had been interviewed and a decision had been taken as to the advisability of the two different routes.

It was reported that a man had been sent to the Stewart river to look into the possibility of a route to the northward to be navigable by the steamer to exceed \$2,000 on that matter.

A letter was received from the secretary of the Navy enclosing copies of memorials to the Government asking that a conference be held to consider the names of any gentlemen in Victoria who were willing to form a committee of the society here. The letter was received and ordered acknowledged.

Department of fisheries and marine regarding the licenses for trap at Boundary Bay. Inspector McKeown's communication said, had been asked that as many nets would be used there this year as heretofore.

A letter was received and filed. The Librarian R. E. Gonnell, is compiling statistics in reference to the trade of the different provinces, asking that the matter be considered by the board. A resolution was passed to that effect.

Consideration of the leasing of the Stewart river for purposes of dredging then came before the council. The conditions of the lease were read and some discussion followed. None of the members knew anything about the lease, but they thought that should have been given.

President Ker thought that the leasing of the Stewart river was greatly against the interests of the country. He thought that there must be "something" done. Some one must be applying for the lease although they were going to the form of calling for tenders.

Mr. Kirk inquired if the British Columbia Board of Trade very earnestly objects to the unfairness of granting a lease for dredging the Stewart river, not having been given an opportunity to be heard in the matter.

Mr. Ker thought that something should be done to draw the attention of the P.R.R. to the matter of the bad telegraph service.

President Ker thought that something should be done to improve the telegraph service.

Robinson thought that such would be the case, but as they did not have the same condition of affairs here.

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GREEK ARMY DEMORALIZED

The Entire Force in Epirus Thrown Into a Helpless Panic by Turkish Onslaught.

The Officers Neglected to Provide for the Timely Arrival of Reinforcements.

Greeks from America Arrive at Paris En Route for the Scene of the Struggle.

LONDON, May 3.—The Times correspondent at Patras, giving further details of the fighting in the Peloponnese, says that the timely arrival of reinforcements to a matter so difficult in that wild section of the country—and especially when the Turks' onset might be expected to be a heavy one—was neglected. There had been no reinforcements sent to the Greek army in Epirus since the opening of the campaign, covered as it is by the mountains and the face of the country is so rugged and the communications are so difficult.

At Kanopolis Col. Botzari and staff vainly tried to check the advance of the Turkish forces, but the mass, continually growing and rolling along. Presently there mingled with the troops the scared inhabitants of the villages on the line of retreat, who, fearing vengeance for assisting the Greeks in fleeing to Arta with their families and chattels their cattle, sheep and goats bellowing, bleating, tramping and killing each other, while the lurid glare of the burning houses behind reminded them of all they had lost.

A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Paris says: "Two hundred American volunteers for Greece have arrived here and have gone on to Masselona bearing arms and wearing ribbons bearing the inscription: 'War, for victory or death.'"

The correspondent of the Times at Patras says: "Communication passed over a short distance toward Larissa and over the line apparently as little damaged. The authorities are distributing rifles and bayonets to civilians indiscriminately, but the panic is spreading. The British warship Dryad has arrived here, and reports she sighted the main body of Greeks off the island of Skiathos."

The correspondent of the Standard at Patras says: "Some 200 British volunteers for Greece have arrived here and have gone on to Masselona bearing arms and wearing ribbons bearing the inscription: 'War, for victory or death.'"

The Morning Post has a dispatch from Larissa saying that the Greeks, before leaving the town, seized the horses of the Turkish correspondents, thus compelling them to go on foot.

The Daily Chronicle publishes a dispatch from Patras which says it is believed that Osman Pasha has surrendered to the Greek forces.

At Athens, May 3.—The diplomatic situation may be summed up as follows: "No request for mediation has been or will be addressed by Greece to the powers under the ministers of war and marine respectively on the state of the Greek forces in the Peloponnese and elsewhere. The powers have not offered to mediate, although they do not conceal the fact that a request for intervention will be highly acceptable to them. Minister for Foreign Affairs, M. Skouloudis says the military situation has generally improved both in Greece and Thessaly, and the victory of the Greeks over the Turks at Velostino is a brilliant one."

At Patras, May 3.—The chief of the Greek authorities and one hundred in all, of the Greek troops in the vicinity of the town of Filiptada, are visible. Several Greek priests have been attempting to restore the morale of the troops at Patras by preaching a crusade against the Turks in the public square.

HALLED WITH DELIGHT. Britishers Still Talking About the New Canadian Tariff.

LONDON, May 3.—The newspapers continue their comments and articles on the Canadian tariff and its effect on British trade.

The Daily Telegraph calls it the "most startling commercial development of the year."

It is hailed with delight in trading circles here. In cottons, woollen goods and iron manufactures Great Britain ought to have a marked improvement in business if preferential treatment is accorded her, while in many other articles it is believed she ought to wrest the supremacy from the United States.

The Spectator expects this tariff act will lead to negotiations between Washington and Ottawa, which will result in a reciprocal arrangement.

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MILLIONS IN SMOKE

Great Conflagration in Pittsburg—Three Large Business Blocks Burned.

Most Destructive Fire That Has Visited the City Since the Year 1845.

Pittsburg, Pa., May 3.—The greatest fire that has visited this city since the memorable one in 1845 started shortly after midnight in the immense wholesale grocery establishment of Thomas C. Perkins on Pennsylvania avenue and Liberty street. Three large blocks, extending from Liberty and Pennsylvania avenue, and from Fifth street to Sixth street, have been destroyed. The loss will exceed two million dollars, and is well covered by insurance. Among the buildings destroyed are Jenkins's six-story grocery establishment, Horne's story dry goods establishment, and the office building, Duquesne theatre, and the Methodist book concern. The fire started in the cellar in the Jenkins building in a pile of boxes filled with waste paper.

HER BOWS STOVE IN. Steamship Sberness Arrives at St. Johns in a Disabled Condition.

St. Johns, Nfld., May 3.—The British steamer Sberness, Capt. Norman, from Cadiz, April 19th, for this port and Montreal, arrived to-day with her bows stove in by ice.

ROSSLAND ROBBERS Johnson and Black Are Fighting in San Francisco Against Extradition.

Detectives Find \$1,000 Worth of the Jewellery in Several Pawn Shops.

A special dispatch from San Francisco states that Johnson and Black, wanted in connection with the robbery of Chaloner, Mitchell & Spring's jewellery store at Rossland, are going to fight against extradition. Superintendent F. Hussey, of the provincial police, has arrested the case in conjunction with Chief of Police Lees. Through their attorneys Johnson and Black obtained a writ of habeas corpus. Chief Lees, in order to save himself in the habeas corpus proceedings, has charged the men with being fugitives from justice.

The San Francisco Chronicle gives the following account of the arrest of the men: "J. D. Green, alias Richard Black, and Edward Johnson are locked up in the city prison on suspicion of having robbed the jewellery store of Chaloner, Mitchell & Spring, Rossland, B. C., of \$5,000 worth of diamonds. Johnson was arrested after yesterday morning at 17 Grant avenue by Detectives Gibson and Wren. He at first declared his innocence, but finally broke down and implicated Black in the robbery. The latter was found in his room on Grant avenue and taken into custody. Viola Hastings, who claims to be Johnson's wife, was also arrested, and it is believed she knows all about the robbery. Last night Detectives Gibson and Wren visited Black's room and found a portion of the plunder. In the chimney they discovered several diamond rings and a number of gold watches, which have been identified as part of the property taken from the Rossland store. Shortly after the commission of the crime Johnson and Green went to Northport, Wash., where they planned the stolen property. Soon after, Johnson, evidently thinking the safe from arrest, unearched the plunder and forwarded a portion of it to this city. At Spokane Detective Warren, who had been apprised of the robbery, intercepted the jewelry, but failed to catch the thief. In some manner Johnson learned that his portion of the plunder had fallen into the hands of the police and at once fled to this city. "Becoming alarmed, Johnson fled from Washington, arriving here a few weeks ago. The chief of police of Spokane wired the local authorities to be on the lookout for the thieves, as he expected that Johnson would join Green. "Late Tuesday night Detectives Gibson and Wren, who had been furnished with descriptions of the men, learned that Johnson and Green were stopping in a lodging house at 17 Grant avenue. They paid a visit to their room, but failed to find them. Shortly afterward Johnson was seen walking along Grant avenue and arrested. "Although the local detectives have recovered about \$1,000 worth of plunder stolen by the men, part of it was found in several pawnshops, where it had been disposed of by Johnson and Green. They will be detained at the city prison pending the arrival of an officer from British Columbia."

CHANG WO AND CHAMBERLAIN

Instructions from the Colonial Secretary to Dr. Watt Regarding Special Envoys.

Mr. H. G. Latmothe Appointed Assistant Secretary of Privy Council.

Business Men Interview the Government on Tariff Matters—Visiting Victorians.

Ottawa, May 3.—The report has reached Ottawa that His Excellency Chang Wo is in quarantine at William Head, Victoria, and that Wo, as a special envoy to London to represent the Emperor of China at the diamond jubilee, protested against undergoing fumigation. The deputy minister of agriculture was asked as to the truth of the report. He said that Chang had cabled Hon. Mr. Chamberlain, and that the colonial secretary had telegraphed the department to show as much consideration as possible for the distinguished visitor. The department here telegraphed Dr. Watt, superintendent of quarantine, to show whether or not it would be possible to allow Chang to pass at the same time to act in the public safety.

H. G. Latmothe, who was recently superannuated from the state department, has been appointed assistant secretary of the privy council. His appointment dates from the 20th April. A delegation is here from the publishers, asking that the duty on cheap books be increased, and a delegation from the marble men ask that the duty on fine marble be lowered.

W. Templeman and George Riley, of Victoria, B. C., were among those who attended a dinner given by Hon. Mr. Turner at the senate restaurant on Saturday evening.

The Canadian Indian famine fund has been closed. The total from all sources is close on \$200,000.

The dairy commissioner has dispatched six men to the Territories to work up the creamery business.

The supreme court has held that the seizure of the United States schooner Geering last year for fishing within the three-mile limit was justifiable.

Quebec, May 3.—Nominations for the Quebec provincial elections will take place to-morrow, on May 11th. A hot battle is raging between the Conservatives and gives promise of a very close finish between the Flynn and Marchand forces. The Manitoba school question is cutting a very small figure in the election. The conservatives have candidates in all but five constituencies, while the Liberals want standard bearers for seven seats.

PARIS BELLE CASE

The Judgment Given by Chief Justice Davies is Reversed by the Full Court.

Owners of the Paris Belle Claim Held to Have Made a Valid Location.

The full court, consisting of Justices McCreight, Walkem, Drake & McCall, this morning delivered judgment in the famous Paris Belle case, allowing the appeal, thereby upsetting the judgment of Chief Justice Davies. The case is that of the Nelson & Port Sheppard railway company against the owners of the Paris Belle claim, which lies within the town limits of Rossland. The railway company claims the land as part of its grant from the government. It attacked the validity of the mineral claim, the latter carrying with it surface rights if it is held to be valid. Chief Justice Davies on the hearing gave judgment for the company, holding the Paris Belle claim invalid, and the judgment is now reversed by the full court. Mr. Justice McCreight's judgment is a very exhaustive one, but lack of space prevents its publication to-day. The following is Mr. Justice McCall's judgment: "I have had the advantage of reading the opinion of Mr. Justice McCreight, which I do not concur in the judgment proposed by him. I do not think it necessary to say anything more than to make some observations upon one of the questions raised by the pleadings and argued at great length upon the appeal, as I have apparently taken a somewhat different view of this question. The plaintiffs were met by the defendants at the threshold of this controversy with sub-section 1 of section 14, cap. 55 Victoria, which provides (1) no adverse claim shall be accepted by the mining recorder after the expiration of the period of publication in the next preceding section mentioned, and in default of such filing no objection to the issue of a certificate of improvements shall be permitted to be heard in any court, nor shall the validity of such certificate when issued be impeached on any ground except that of fraud." It is admitted that the defendant company obtained such certificate of improvements as is here provided for, and the plaintiffs have not attempted to impeach it. What then is the effect between the parties? For the plaintiffs it was strenuously contended as regards the question that the Mineral Act, 1891, and amending acts, which for convenience I shall refer to as acts, only contemplated possible disputes between two or more adverse claimants to a mineral claim; that it could never have been the intention of the legislature to make the title to land depend upon compliance with the provisions of acts passed solely for the purpose of providing for the acquisition of mineral claims, and that it is impossible to conceive that the legislature meant to place upon a land owner the intolerable burden of constant watchfulness lest he should be deprived of some portion of his property. It was also argued that the adverse proceedings provided for by the acts are inapplicable to a land owner and that, therefore, his rights cannot be dependent upon his taking such proceedings, nor can a certificate of improvements be binding upon him. I agree that the proceedings referred to are required only of a claimant to a mineral claim, claiming adversely, but I do not accede to the proposition that, therefore, notwithstanding the issue of the certificate of improvements, the question between the parties is to be determined as if no such certificate had been granted. There can be no pretence that the position of the plaintiff company is in the circumstances of this case better than that of a grantee of the mineral from the crown, whose grant in the ordinary form excepts the precious metals. A sufficient reason why the adverse proceedings required by the acts do not apply to such a grantee is that he does not need the protection against previous claims claiming to be entitled to enter and remain upon his land without having complied with such of their requirements as may be applicable to him. They are trespassers, and can be dealt with as such. It is necessary to bear in mind that the rights conferred by the acts as regards lands unlawfully occupied for mining purposes are not to be construed as if they were intended to give a right to a mineral claim who, in good faith, may be claiming under his record, but it is sufficient for the purpose of this appeal to say that whatever may be the position of the grantee at any time antecedent to the issue of the certificate, it is not to be taken into account. I do not doubt that he will never find it possible to successfully attack the title to a mineral claim in respect of which a certificate has been granted, unless he is able to prove such facts as would amount to fraud. If the grantee may bring an action attacking the title to a mineral claim, notwithstanding the existence of a certificate of improvements, without impeaching its validity, when does the title to the claim become unimpeachable by him? And if he is in his quality of land owner is to have the right to bring such action at such a time as he chooses to present his case, successful, taking advantage of such right for the purpose of himself acquiring the claim? Such a grantee is not concerned with the provisions of the acts as regards the minerals which may be found upon his land. He can acquire them only in the way open to all persons equally under the acts. His title to his lands does not depend upon his compliance with the provisions of his title to it by any proceedings under them. His liability is to have his land entered upon and occupied for mining purposes, and the rights given to the claimant are in respect of such liability by the exemption and security against loss provided for. I am of the opinion that the policy of the acts is to give an absolute title to the construction contended for on behalf of the plaintiff company, that the certificate of improvements is in effect conclusive as well against the plaintiff company as against any adverse claimants (if such there were) to the Paris Belle mineral claim, and that the present rights of the plaintiff company are those, and only those, conferred by acts 1891 and 1892. The plaintiff company is entitled to security and to an injunction in the meantime. The appeal should be allowed; neither party should have the cost of the appeal. A. J. MCCOLL, J. Mr. Justice Walkem delivered a verbal judgment, concurring, and Mr. Justice Drake delivered a written judgment, concurring. Mr. Justice McCreight goes at some length into the cases cited by Mr. Taylor for the Paris Belle owners and Mr. Duff for the Nelson & Port Sheppard Railway Company. Mr. Justice McCreight gave notice that he would appeal to the privy council.

A PROSPECTOR'S DEATH

James C. McKee Killed by a Fall From a Bluff.

James C. McKee, a prospector who came in from Sooke Lake yesterday reported to the provincial police this afternoon the death of James McKee, a prospector, who has for some time past been working in that neighborhood. Deceased lived in a cabin at Bacon Bar, Leech river, and on Sunday last McKee, who lived in a cabin two miles away with a mine in the vicinity of Sooke Lake, reached the cabin he found no trace of McKee, and from all appearances the deceased man had not been at his cabin for some days past. His first thought was that McKee was working at his sluice boxes up the river, but being afraid that something had happened he began a search for his friend. When he got to a point about 44 miles from Sooke lake in a southwesterly direction, and about 600 yards east of the old government dam, where the trail is very rough and runs for some distance along the edge of a bluff, which is about 25 feet high, he saw the body of his friend lying face upwards at the bottom. The ground at the foot of the bluff is very rough and jagged. McKee fell at once and got some of the other mining men working in the vicinity to assist him in recovering the body. They thought that nothing could be done until the police were informed. McKee then came to town and reported the matter to the provincial police. The last time McKee was seen alive was on Monday, April 26th. Provincial Constable Beaven left this afternoon in company with Mr. W. J. Hanna, the undertaker, for the scene of the sad occurrence. The body will be brought to town to-morrow and an inquest will be held on Wednesday. The body has several bad cuts on the back and at the side of the head, but these, as can easily be seen, were caused by the fall from the top of the bluff. McKee was an old prospector, and he has considerable mining property both in this province and on the Yukon.

PROTEST FROM A VICTORIAN

A Local Sealer Interviewed in London on the Latest Phase of the Sealing Question.

Extension of the Close Season Would Mean a Death-Blow to Canadian Sealers.

A Statement by H. Liebes, of the North American Commercial Company.

LONDON, May 3.—Profiting by the temporary presence in England of a leading member of one of the oldest and largest Victorian sealing houses, a representative of the Associated Press called upon that gentleman to ascertain the views held by the Canadian or pelagic sealers on the latest phase of the sealing question. He said in part: "To talk of extending the close season until the end of August means absolutely a death-blow to Canadian sealers. Under the existing arrangements Victoria sealers starting for the grounds in time for August can only reckon on six weeks, and only then under the most favorable conditions. If the time be extended, as suggested, we could only be at the most hope for one week's sealing, and as the weather is usually very bad, the chances are that the sealers would return without a single skin. "There are at present about 60 vessels which set out every season from Victoria alone, but it is a mistake to think that pelagic sealing is done entirely by Canadians. Every year a number of pelagic schooners go out from San Francisco, Seattle and Tacoma, in the United States. Indians from Neah Bay, in Washington state, also send out vessels to Behring Sea. "No people in the world have suffered greater hardships than the Canadian sealers. Many have been reduced to absolute poverty by the seizure of their ships, outfits and skins in 1885, '86 and '87 by the United States government. The question of the right of taking the seal has been paid, but I am bound to say that the United States government is not altogether to blame for this. Canadian sealers feel that they have been shamefully neglected by the British government. "Canadian sealers are not pirates. Our business is perfectly legitimate. Every vessel leaving for the Behring Sea is properly cleared by the British authorities and custom house, and it is shameful that a large and important industry should be killed by the overbearing conduct of American monopolists and the weakness of the British government. But in spite of all this, the Victoria sealers are bound to have their rights as long as there is a seal left. "At least 2,000 British subjects on Valdivia Island alone derive their living from legitimate sealing on the high seas. The Canadians loyally respect the provisions of the Paris award, unjust as they think them. "On the United States side of the question Mr. H. Liebes, one of the members of the North American Commercial Co., makes the following statement to the Associated Press: "There is no idea of making things hot or cold for anybody, neither is there a wish to hurt Canada or worry England; much less is there any intention to avoid or ignore any of the decisions come to by the Paris tribunal, which we are fully aware are binding for a period of five years. What, however, we do contend, and what we wish to understand, is the fact that by their award the Paris tribunal intended to give all the protection they possibly could to the seal herd, consisting of the part of the Alaska Company concerned, and the regulations were made to be binding for the period mentioned. The question at once arises as to whether the injury to the seal herd should be allowed to continue for the unexpired term set by the award, or whether it would not be wiser as well as more humane for an attempt to be made by all parties interested to come to a mutual agreement without the delay of the existing regulations. It is recommended by the commissioners, that is the real and only question to be satisfactorily settled, and it may be well to point out that the present low value of sealskins not only precludes the hope of existing conditions the result must be a total failure of their ability to continue the industry, so that it would seem that the present would be a most convenient and appropriate time to take the matter in hand and carry out the necessary means of giving effect to the views of the commissioners."

MEETING AT CHILLIWACK. Electors Almost Unanimously in Favor of Mr. Vedder.

An enthusiastic meeting was held at Chilliwack on Thursday evening in the interest of Mr. A. S. Vedder, the opposition candidate for the vacancy in the legislature caused by the death of Mr. Thomas Kitchen. On the platform were: Reeve Wells and Messrs. Vedder, J. C. McLagan, of the Vancouver World, the police representative of the Turner government on the Mainland; J. P. Booth, C. B. Sward and Mr. Walkem, M.P.P.s, and Mr. Brown. Mr. McSwain was elected chairman and Mr. Dickson secretary.

Mr. McLagan read a long letter from Premier Turner, in which he asked the support of the electors for the provincial candidate. The letter referred to some of the reasons for the resignation of the Premier, and the government was unable to carry out the reclamation scheme which they had promised to undertake, but by the bill which had recently passed the house the government had assumed the onus of carrying out reclamation works. It was impossible to do away with the mortgage tax at present, but it could be done when more revenue was derived from the mines. Mr. J. C. Brown went over the record of the government and showed them up in their true light, making a rousing speech which was constantly interrupted by applause. The true reason why the government failed to carry out the reclamation scheme was because they wished to punish the people of the district for electing oppositionists, and now they were throwing out another sop to try and catch their votes. He referred to the manner in which the government had retained their hold on the offices by the British Pacific cry and how they had given Mr. Ribbet control of the government. The so-called railway aid bill and the Cassiar railway bill were dissected, and reasons were given why the people should be opposed to those measures. Mr. Booth, M.P.P., practically said that he had been sent up to plead for the government, but instead of doing that he pitched into Mr. Brown and said that that gentleman was in the habit of calling names. Mr. Booth is not a good a stump speaker as he is a chairman of committees. Mr. Brown challenged Mr. Booth to state an instance of where he had called anybody bad names. Mr. Booth did not take up the challenge. There being no one to reply to Mr. Brown, Dr. Walkem was called upon and went after the government at a great rate. He pointed out that Mr. Booth, who had assumed so much virtue, was open to severe criticism. He recollected that when the bill for the sale of land for school purposes was before the house, Mr. Booth, instead of opposing it, like Achilles of old, who sulked in his tent, sulked in the library and refused to take his seat in the house. He went over the measures on which the government had been virtually defeated, and showed that a British government would either push a measure through the house or resign. A former attorney-general of the same stripe of government as the present had thrown up the sponge in an appeal on the question of the right of taking the seal. Victoria Lumber Company, whereby the province had lost \$75,000. The meeting was almost unanimous for Mr. Vedder.

DOMINION CIVIL SERVICE

To the Editor: A leading article appears in the Province of April 24th headed "Civil Service Reform." The writer attempts to set forth the evils of the present patronage system and advocates its abolition, assuring a better and more efficient service. The article as a whole is good, but before passing such a bill with the expectation of such results as are predicted, cleanse the present civil service. Any appointee under the old Conservative government was expected to, in the vernacular of the day, "Do the right thing"—that is, first consider his pocket (the person whom he received his appointment through), then the public. This being the case, how can a good, pure civil service be established? In the late campaign the rallying cry was, a change, a change, and with all due respect and consideration for Mr. Bostock, it was that cry that won for his victory in Lillooet and Cariboo. We had so long suffered from the hands of the B. X. Co., and its few favored ones that a change was necessary, and with the hope and expectation that this thing would be broken up, we helped to roll up the majority for Bostock. Wish what result? There is no change. I would ask, Mr. Editor, if any sane newspaper or individual expects pure civil service under these conditions? Provincial politics are too closely allied to Dominion politics for any such results. We all know what that means, when our provincial premier on hearing that the Weekly Gleaner criticizes the government adversely, rises in the house and asks: "Does the Gleaner get to avoid or ignore any of the decisions come to by the Paris tribunal, which we are fully aware are binding for a period of five years. What, however, we do contend, and what we wish to understand, is the fact that by their award the Paris tribunal intended to give all the protection they possibly could to the seal herd, consisting of the part of the Alaska Company concerned, and the regulations were made to be binding for the period mentioned. The question at once arises as to whether the injury to the seal herd should be allowed to continue for the unexpired term set by the award, or whether it would not be wiser as well as more humane for an attempt to be made by all parties interested to come to a mutual agreement without the delay of the existing regulations. It is recommended by the commissioners, that is the real and only question to be satisfactorily settled, and it may be well to point out that the present low value of sealskins not only precludes the hope of existing conditions the result must be a total failure of their ability to continue the industry, so that it would seem that the present would be a most convenient and appropriate time to take the matter in hand and carry out the necessary means of giving effect to the views of the commissioners."

ALBERT G. PORTER DEAD.

Indianapolis's Ex-Governor Passes Away Full of Years.

Indianapolis, May 3.—Albert G. Porter, ex-governor of Indiana and ex-minister to Italy under President Harrison's administration, died at his home in this city shortly after 3 o'clock this morning, aged 74 years.

SAFETY STEP FOR VEHICLES.

A safety step for delivery wagons and similar vehicles (which drivers generally avoid placing one foot on the top of the wheel) is rotatably mounted on the hub, so that when the driver steps upon the ring his weight locks the step to the hub, and the hub rotates with the ring, which remains stationary relative to the foot.

Mr. Justice McCreight and Judge Robt. of New Westminster, are at the Ontario.

THE BUDGET SPEECH

Hon. Mr. Fielding Introduces the New Tariff in the House of Commons.

An Eloquent Presentation of the Policy Decided Upon by the Government.

The Finance Minister's Estimate of the Result Likely to Follow.

The following report of the Hon. Mr. Fielding's budget speech is taken from the Ottawa Journal.

The finance minister proceeded first to make his financial statement which he worked out in considerable detail.

He estimated that the revenue for the present fiscal year ending June 30 next to be possibly \$37,500,000, perhaps a little less.

The expenditure would be about \$37,857,778. Mr. Fielding figured that the deficit might be \$350,000. But he did not desire to be bound by such a statement.

The deficit at any rate would be well within the million mark. "I think," he said, "that we will have to make further allowance for the uncertainties of our trade during the two remaining months and I shall not be far astray if I say we will come out of the year well within a million dollars deficit, and I shall not be surprised if it does not exceed \$600,000."

As regards the national debt, he said that for 1896-97 the net addition to the debt had been \$2,425,505, bringing the total net debt of Canada to \$256,497,432. For the present year, ending June 30 next, the net increase would probably be \$1,750,000—say \$900,000 of deficit, as he had already explained, and \$1,150,000 expended on capital account.

For the coming fiscal year, July 1, 1897, to June 30, 1898, Mr. Fielding estimated that ordinary revenue would be \$37,500,000 as far as could be ascertained when the tariff was changing.

The ordinary expenditure would be \$38,250,000, leaving a deficit of \$750,000. In addition, there would be an expenditure of two millions on capital account. So that next year again, \$2,750,000 would probably be added to the public debt.

N. P. AND THE LIBERALS.

The Finance Minister Summarizes His Party's Trade Views.

Having discussed the finances at length, Mr. Fielding proceeded to review the history of the National Policy.

Mr. Fielding recalled the inducements which the framers of the National Policy had held out to the people in 1878.

One of the commonest arguments advanced at that time was that protection was not a good thing in itself, but that it was a matter of temporary necessity.

Give the infant industries a chance, and they would soon be able to stand alone. That statement might be now viewed in the light of experience.

The infant industry had grown larger, and its voice stronger, but the policy was employed to cry out that if the nursing bottle was taken away the infant would die.

Then the people had been promised a reciprocity treaty. Sir Charles Tupper had promised it in two years. The country had had eighteen years of the National Policy, and had been farther from the reciprocity than at the end of that time than at the beginning.

When they had been promised an increase of population. Under this head Mr. Fielding made an exhaustive review of the census figures of 1881, and pointed out that in this regard the National Policy had failed miserably to fulfill the promises of its framers.

Having thus advanced his arguments for the abolition of the National Policy, Mr. Fielding turned to an elucidation of the policy with which the government proposed replacing it. And to this end he read the tariff resolution passed at the Liberal party convention assembled in 1893.

"That the customs tariff of the Dominion should be based, not as it is now, upon the protective principle, but upon the requirements of the public service; that the existing tariff, founded upon an unsound principle, and used, as it has been by the government, as a corrupting agency whereby the few themselves have developed monopolies, trusts and combinations; it has decreased the value of farm and other landed property; it has oppressed the masses to the enrichment of the few; it has checked immigration; it has caused a great loss of population; it has impeded commerce; it has discriminated against Great Britain; in these and in many other ways, it has occasioned great public and private injury, all of which evils must continue to grow in intensity as long as the present tariff system remains in force."

"We denounce the principle of protection as radically unsound, and unjust to the masses of the people.

"The tariff should be reduced to the needs of honest, economical and efficient government; that it should be so adjusted as to make free, or to bear as lightly as possible upon, the necessities of life, and should be so arranged as to promote freer trade with the whole world, more particularly with Great Britain and the United States."

Here it was that the Liberals began to show enthusiasm. As each one of the familiar propositions fell from the finance minister's lips the party behind him cried "Hear, hear," and the response took the sound of an Anglican church service.

"Here endeth the second lesson," said Mr. Foster.

Mr. Fielding declared that the election of Canada and given their verdict upon this resolution and the Liberal party in power accepted the principle laid down in the resolution as a principle which they were bound to follow. Upon this declaration the Liberals in the house set up a great cheer. It being 10 o'clock the speaker left the chair.

Resuming in the evening, Mr. Fielding protested against the proposition that the manufacturers had a vested right in the National Policy. Every man who invested a dollar in the National Policy was well aware that that policy was opposed by one of the great parties in the Dominion. There had never

been in the country a substantial majority would to the principle of high protection. There was a speculative element in the whole National Policy business. The manufacturers had to run their risk and should be prepared to take the consequences. They would have no reason to complain if the government were to remove their protection at the stroke of the pen. That would be a just justice. But there was no disposition on the part of this government to follow such a course.

"Hear, hear," shouted the Conservatives gleefully and "Hear, hear," the ministers cried back fervently, and the whole house applauded at once by pounding the desk lids.

Protection, continued Mr. Fielding has become so interwoven with other interests that in an attempt to revise tariff conditions the government might injure the other interests which had substantial claims upon it. In the matter of banking alone, vast interests were dependent upon the careful treatment of the conditions under which the manufacturing industries existed and the government had no desire by any means to do what some persons say are bound to do but what intelligent persons know we are not bound to do.

"Oh, come to the point," said Mr. Foster sharply, "you are making us think. But Mr. Fielding was nearing the point.

A DOUBLE-BLADED TARIFF.

Canada to Uncle Sam and Great Britain—Measure for Measure.

In 1893, Mr. Fielding proceeded, at the time of the Liberal convention in Ottawa, the Democrats had seen them returned to power in the United States, and there was every reason to believe that the States were about to adopt a more reasonable tariff policy and enact a measure of tariff reform. The time seemed opportune for placing on record the willingness of one of the great parties of Canada to assist at the improvement of the trade relations of the two countries. Unhappily, the American people had changed their minds. Still, leading public men in the United States had indicated to public men on this side that though the Republicans had been elected, the Dingley tariff bill, they do not refuse to enter into improved trade relations with Canada.

"In view of that," said Mr. Fielding, "we feel that we are justified in stopping to think what would be the effect of our policy of to-day, while on the eve of negotiations on the subject of reciprocity, if our American friends are willing to negotiate, we should in advance such negotiations reduce our tariff down to low figures."

"I believe that there is nothing inconsistent with sound free trade principles in a government endeavoring, in dealing with a neighbor, to hold in its hand whatever levers it may possess in the negotiations; but not in the spirit of retaliation. There are men, well-meaning in Canada, who are in favor of them, let us admit—who say that we should meet the Dingley bill on the principle of an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth, and a dollar for a dollar. We are not prepared to do that. We adopt that policy. We say that it is a wise policy to wait and see what shall be the outcome of the present uncertainty in the United States in relation to their trade policy, and the negotiations in which we are willing to enter into with respect to reciprocity. We say that pending such negotiations and pending the American tariff, we should have a clear understanding of what will be the effect which their policy may have upon the affairs of Canada. It is the part of prudence that we should understand the duties and not extend to that country the measure of a tariff reform that we would be anxious to extend if they would meet us frankly.

"We recognize the fact that if the Dingley bill becomes law, it will have some effect on our trade. We do not complain of it; we have no right to complain of it. The American people are entitled to the right to frame their own tariff policy with a single eye to their own interests, and we must recognize that without a murmur; but they are an intelligent people, and intelligent people are entitled to the fact that if they have the right to frame their policy with a single eye to what we believe to be the interests of their country, we will say to our American brethren that we will not yield to this spirit of retaliation which is in the air, and in which there is perhaps very considerable justification. While we are anxious to put up a barbed wire fence three or four strands higher, there is no particular reason why we should take it down to-day.

A PREFERENTIAL TARIFF.

"This leads to the conclusion that we must be prepared to deal with this question from the point of view of having one tariff for the countries who are willing to trade with us and a different tariff for the countries who are not. So far as our tariff has relation to those countries who have no particular desire to trade with us, we recognize that there are in it some items of sufficient force to justify us in making reductions to please foreign countries, but to please ourselves. There are things we want to buy from foreign countries and our desire to obtain these things on fair and reasonable terms is paramount to every other consideration in dealing with the tariff question. But with the exception of these articles to which I shall refer as I proceed I have to tell these that it is not the intention of the government to propose any great reduction in the tariff as applied to those countries who are not disposed to trade with us. We propose therefore to have a general tariff and that general tariff will be to a large extent the tariff of to-day—the tariff of to-day, freed from some of its enormities, freed from some of the injustices of which the people complain, freed from many of the specific duties, freed from the conflicts, annoyances and irritations which have created war between the importers and the customs authorities. We propose to adopt a general tariff, and when we propose to adopt a special tariff having reference to the countries which are desirous of trading with us; and as a matter of course, not by the condition of offering not which exists, that preferential tariff gives preference above all others to the product of Great Britain.

At this point the enthusiasm of the ministerialists overflowed all former bounds and the opposition leaders sat smiling grimly at the noise from across the gangway.

FAVORED NATION TREATIES.

Discussion as to Whether They Invalidate the Preferential Tariff.

Sir Charles Tupper asked Mr. Fielding a question:

"In granting the advantages which he has stated he proposed to grant to goods imported from the United Kingdom, how does he propose to get over the Belgian and German treaties which actually prohibit Canada from discriminating in favor of Great Britain against either Belgium or Germany or any of the countries that have 'most favored' nation treatment?"

Mr. Fielding replied: "There is an important distinction between the policy which seems to be forbidden by the Belgian and German treaties and the policy which I submit. By the Belgian and German treaties any colony would be prohibited to make a preferential arrangement with Great Britain without offering the same arrangement to the 'most favored' nations. We do not offer anything to Great Britain by our resolution which offers to Great Britain alone. We recognize the fact that Great Britain by her liberal trade policy is in a position to avail herself of this resolution offer immediately but we do not offer to Great Britain alone, but to every nation which is prepared to accept it. We make it to every country which is willing to establish fair trade relations with Canada."

Sir Chas. Tupper: "The express terms of one of those treaties at all events is that England will not permit any higher rate of duty to be charged upon the articles coming from those countries than is charged upon like articles coming from Great Britain herself. If I am correct in my reading of the treaty, this proposal of the Canadian government is entirely delusive, and will have no effect whatever."

Mr. Fielding: "What I understand—subject to the ultimate judgment of the law—is that the Canadian government is not offering to Great Britain but to every nation which is willing to accept it at the same time offering the same to those countries which are not."

Sir Charles Tupper: "Nothing of the kind."

Mr. Fielding: "Well, my hon. friend is willing to settle that question in this way which is a delightful one."

Sir Charles Tupper: "The treaty speaks for itself in express terms."

Mr. Fielding: "Possibly it does; and even if it does, the world moves, and possibly the step we are taking to-day may have the effect of drawing the attention of Her Majesty's government and of the English public to the position of the Canadian government in the question. Meantime, we intend to take the view that inasmuch as we offer these conditions to other nations, if they do not see fit to accept them, they rest upon them and not upon Canada."

This statement was received with loud applause.

THE NEW TARIFF.

A Summary of the Principles and Chief Details.

Mr. Fielding proceeded to the details of the new tariff. Roughly speaking, the duties on the reduction or abolition of duties on the countries which are staples like binder twine, barbed wire and machinery; substitution largely of ad valorem duties for specific ones; heavy reduction in duties on iron pig and scrap, with compensating duties on producers by bounties; slight reductions of the duties on oil, sugar, wheat, flour and a number of manufactured articles; duties and excise on liquors and tobacco, and the preferential trade with countries favoring us in their duties.

Mr. Fielding was closely followed and frequently questioned by Mr. Foster and other opposition members. One article, which is not much grown by Canadian farmers, but is needed for stock food, was to be free except when imported for use by whisky distillers. The coal oil tax was to be reduced from 6 cents a gallon to 5 cents and the regulation preventing the sale of coal oil in tanks was to be abolished.

"Sold for one cent," said an opposition member.

Barbed wire and binder twine were to be free after the first of next year. The tea duty was to remain unchanged. The duty on raw sugar was to remain stationary, while the duty on refined sugar, governing the price of sugar to the people, was to be decreased. The duty on unbleached rice was to be increased from 10 to 12 cents per pound and the duty on the bleached article to remain.

"You don't cheapen our food," said Mr. Foster.

"No, but we must have some regard for the revenue," said Mr. Fielding.

THE COAL QUESTION.

Mr. Fielding announced that for the present the coal duties would remain unchanged. He admitted that in making a Montreal declaration he had taken a very liberal view of the coal duties, but yet prepared to enter fully into the matter. He must submit to some misunderstanding, but he could assure the house that in the end the wisdom of his course would be vindicated. There had existed at Washington certain misunderstandings as to the policy of the Canadian government in respect of the coal duties. His announcement therefore had served a useful purpose.

"Yes, in the Nova Scotia elections," said Charles Tupper.

Having expressed surprise at Sir Charles' courage in referring to Nova Scotia, Mr. Fielding said that there was a reason to believe that public men in Washington were reconsidering the proposed coal duty of 75 cents per ton in the Dingley bill, and would probably reduce it. If the U. S. duty were kept at

Much in Little

As especially true of Hood's Pills, for no medicine ever contained so great curative power in so small space. They are a whole medicine.

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Always ready, always efficient, always satisfactory; prevent a cold, cure all liver ills, sick headache, jaundice, constipation, etc. The only Pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

40 cents per ton, the present rate, the Canadian duty would be reduced to a like figure from its present rate of 60 cents. As the government, however, could not wait to see the outcome at Washington, the matter must be left in abeyance.

In answer to a question by Sir Charles Tupper, Mr. Fielding said that should the Dingley bill duty of 75 cents be imposed by the States, the Canadian duty of 60 cents on bituminous coal would be retained, and a duty on anthracite coal (now free) be imposed by Canada.

Mr. Fielding, who had become very tired looking, here gave place to Mr. Paterson, the controller of customs, who explained the rest of the items in the general tariff. His first explanation of interest touched the iron schedules. Here thought iron was imported largely from the States it was in the interest of Canada that the duties on it be reduced. Accordingly an all round reduction had been made. "The duty has been reduced, here give place to Mr. Paterson, the controller of customs, who explained the rest of the items in the general tariff. His first explanation of interest touched the iron schedules. Here thought iron was imported largely from the States it was in the interest of Canada that the duties on it be reduced. Accordingly an all round reduction had been made. "The duty has been reduced, here give place to Mr. Paterson, the controller of customs, who explained the rest of the items in the general tariff. His first explanation of interest touched the iron schedules. 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CASSIAR OUTRAGE

The Bill to Exclude Free Miners from Cassiar Passes Through Committee.

Opposition Members and Speaker Make Stubborn Fight Against the Bill.

Government Forced to Accept Amendments Giving Less Power to Company.

Thursday, 20th of April, 1897.

The Speaker took the chair at two o'clock; prayers by Rev. D. MacRae.

THE MINING ACT.

The house went into committee with Mr. Huff in the chair to further consider Mr. Smith's mineral act.

The committee had not gone far when a discussion arose concerning the fact that the bill as introduced by Mr. Smith was not as reported by the mining committee.

Mr. Semlin said that Mr. Smith had accepted a duty which should have devolved on the minister of mines.

Hon. Col. Baker should have taken the responsibility of introducing the bill.

Mr. Smith explained that Col. Baker had requested him to introduce the bill, adding that he had not time to bring in the bill.

Mr. Walkem moved that the committee rise. This was declared out of order.

Dr. Walkem then moved that the chairman leave the chair.

Mr. Williams said it would be better if the bill was withdrawn and another introduced by the minister of mines.

Mr. Graham said the mining committee had been treated courteously, but the bill included amendments of such great importance that it would not be right to let it go.

Dr. Walkem's motion was withdrawn. The following sub-section was then struck out: "Every person engaged in mining for minerals other than coal shall take out a free miner's certificate, and every person or stock company who mines any mineral claim without having taken out and obtained such certificate shall, on conviction thereof in a summary way, forfeit and pay a penalty not exceeding twenty-five dollars, besides costs."

The effect of striking out the clause is to make all employees in mines subject to the 85 mining tax.

The following section was then passed: "The lawful holder of a mineral claim shall, under the provisions of this act, be entitled to receive a crown grant of all the surface rights of such mineral claim on payment to the government of British Columbia of the sum of five dollars per acre for such land, and the fee of five dollars for the grant."

It was understood, however, that the sub-section would introduce a sub-section making the proviso that if a mineral claim was used for a townsite, the government should have the right to purchase the lots in the townsite.

Some objection was taken to the following section, because it was held that it should exclude free miners from prospecting over certain grounds:

"Whoever is supposed to cross a road under an alluvial deposit, and the indications of mining therein, on the side of the mountain leading to such valley, any free miner making a sworn statement before the recorder or gold commissioner of the district that there is no indication of mining running through the road, such alluvial deposit, shall be entitled to a permit for three months for such road over the area of mineral claim, with the privilege of extending his permit, on his proving to the satisfaction of the gold commissioner that he has bona fide searched for gold on the road, and that he has expended in cash or labor, not less than one hundred dollars in such search. During the existence of such permit, the ground covered by the same shall be open to record by any other miner. The fee for such permit, and the renewal of the same, shall be the same as the fee for a record."

The section after considerable discussion was carried.

The ambiguity of being "in possession" of the following section was introduced:

"No free miner shall be entitled to an interest in any mineral claim which has been located and recorded by any free miner unless he has a written agreement signed by the parties to the agreement stating the particular interest he is entitled to in such mineral claim."

Mr. Pooley said that open mining on the mountains had not been done for many years, and that the miners would be as likely to be discovered without a written agreement as with one.

Mr. Kellie said the object of the section was to protect prospectors, who on the American side were often the victims of those who went into court and falsely swore that they had verbal agreements with prospectors.

A motion to strike out the section was defeated. Mr. Williams then moved to amend the clause by striking out all the words after "unless" and inserting "such interest is specified and set forth in a written agreement signed by the parties to the mining claim." This amendment was carried, and then the amended section was passed.

The following section was then considered:

"In all cases where a mineral claim is located upon land granted to a railway company as a government subsidy

the lawful owner of the mineral claim, after the same shall have been crown granted, shall be entitled to appropriate the entire surface rights and interest in fee simple of the company in and to the same in the manner prescribed for the appropriation of land in the Land Clauses Consolidation Act, 1857. Provided, however, that the amount awarded for such surface rights shall not be more than five dollars per acre. The provisions of this section shall not apply to the subsidy of any railway company where provision has heretofore been made as to the price for acquiring the surface rights to mineral claims."

Dr. Walkem pointed out that the legislature had no authority to dictate to railway companies or any one else at what price they shall sell lands deeded to them by the crown. It would be a great boon to the province if the legislature had the power to carry out such a clause; particularly was this true of the E. & N. railway land, but it was useless passing legislation that would not hold water.

Mr. Bryden could not see why any railway company should be compelled to part with their land unless the company was willing to do so.

A motion to strike out the whole section was voted down.

Hon. Mr. Eberts then moved an amendment to the effect that the section should only apply to future railway land grants. It would be breaking faith, he said, for the legislature to attempt to override contracts entered into with railway companies.

Dr. Walkem said the companies brought the matter upon themselves. They refused to sell surface rights to miners without securing exorbitant prices. The lands were not given to the companies in order that they might be locked up and the development of the province retarded. If there was any way of compelling companies to act reasonably it should be put in force. The doctor referred to Mr. Dunsen's offer, which he said was not such as would encourage miners. It was such an offer as would discourage the investment of capital in island mines, which he said were just as rich as those of Kootenay. A satisfactory arrangement should be made at once.

Hon. Mr. Pooley was not aware of any trouble between the Dunsen and the miners. The Dunsen had given lands to some miners for nothing. There was a general antipathy against the railway companies. The railway companies had earned their lands, and their rights should not be interfered with. If arbitration was introduced the individual would always get the better of the company. The house should throw out the clause, and he hoped the house would do that.

Mr. Kellie could not see any benefit of a contract in offering a railway company what its land was worth. It was an outrage that railway companies exempted from taxation should be able to prevent the development of mines.

Mr. Williams maintained that he was not in favor of repealing an act of parliament, but the company should be compelled to forego the privilege of acting the dog-in-the-manger and levy tribute of 20 cents a ton on free miners or charging enormous prices for the wood on miners' claims.

Dr. Walkem said that the matter would have to be settled, and settled soon, and that it would be useless to insert a section which would not be effective. Personally he could not see how the province could control the lands granted to the E. & N. by the Dominion government.

Mr. Sward suggested an amendment to the effect that the clause should apply only to railway lands that are exempt from taxation and are not used for railway purposes. Mr. Sward held that the legislature was justified in passing an act by which lands could be expropriated for the public good.

Hon. Mr. Pooley again called upon the members to vote down the clause.

Mr. Booth strongly opposed the principle embodied in the clause.

Hon. Mr. Eberts' amendment making the section apply only to future land grants was voted down.

Mr. Sward's amendment, restricting the application of the clause to lands exempt from taxation and not used for railway purposes was then passed.

Mr. Kellie then moved to strike out all the words in the clause after the word "1897." This was carried and the amended clause was passed.

Mr. Sward's amendment making the section apply only to future land grants was voted down.

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such authority is filed in the office of the mining recorder in the mining division of the British Columbia office previous to the date of the record of such claim."

Mr. Cotton moved a sub-section to the effect that the clause dealing with the free miners' certificates should not apply to persons working for wages only and not having any interest in the mine at which they worked. Mr. Cotton said the government would surely support the amendment, as Hon. Mr. Pooley had already announced that the government intended repealing the mining tax. Mr. Adams believed Mr. Cotton's motion was out of order because it would affect the revenue. It would also relieve Chinamen from paying the tax.

Mr. Cotton said that it was an extraordinary proposition to advance that a member of the committee could not move a resolution affecting the revenue. Hon. Mr. Turner said that the government had intended to repeal the tax, but portions of the bill dealing with the abolition of what is known as the mining tax.

Mr. Kellie said the people of Kootenay did not object to the tax, but they wanted coal miners taxed in a similar way.

Mr. Rogers stated that the miners of Cariboo did not want the tax repealed. Mr. Cotton replied that Mr. Rogers, if consistent, would also urge a tax on other classes as miners.

The chairman, Mr. Huff, ruled that Mr. Cotton's motion was out of order because it interfered with the revenue.

Dr. Walkem appealed from the chairman's decision, and after lengthy wrangling the committee rose and reported the appeal to the speaker.

The speaker could not see that Mr. Cotton's motion was out of order, as it was in consonance with the bill, and the house then went into committee and the chairman was beginning to put the next clause when Mr. Williams raised the point that Mr. Cotton's motion was still before the house as the speaker had ruled that the speaker had ruled the motion out of order.

Mr. Williams asserted that the speaker had done nothing of the kind. The chairman then left to interview the speaker regarding with the information that the speaker had ruled the motion was out of order unless the assent of the crown was secured.

After further wrangling Hon. Mr. Turner in answer to Mr. Cotton announced that the government did not dissent from the motion. The government had not been asked before whether they gave it their assent or not. (Oh, oh!)

Mr. Cotton's motion was then brought up for further consideration.

Hon. Mr. Turner opposed the motion. He thought it well to defer the matter for another year.

Mr. Cotton wanted to know the reasons for his motion to the motion.

Major Mutter—Question. (Laughter.) Mr. Cotton—that is the question.

Dr. Walkem said that it was a wrong principle to tax a man simply because he wanted to go to a mine.

Mr. Braden said if the tax were removed Chinese and other aliens working in mines would escape taxation altogether.

Mr. Kennedy stated that the tax might have an equitable one for all, that there was nothing but placer mining and every miner was working for himself, but there was no justice in imposing the tax on laborers in quartz mines.

Mr. Cotton's motion was voted down on a division of 12 to 14.

Mr. Kellie then moved another sub-section to the effect that the mining tax should also apply to coal.

Mr. Cotton's motion was ruled out of order.

Mr. Sward's motion was then brought up for consideration.

Hon. Mr. Turner moved the motion to the effect that nothing in the new act shall affect pending litigation. This section was passed.

The following sub-section of section 4 of the new act was struck out on motion of Mr. Graham: "A description of the land bounding the claim on all sides shall state whether it is vacant crown land or land occupied by mineral claims, with the name of the owner, and upon his behalf the applicant on the back of the declaration, showing as near as may be the position of No. 1 and No. 2 posts and the adjoining mineral claims."

Mr. Braden moved the following as a new section:

"Every person over eighteen years of age, and being a British subject, or being an alien, upon his making a declaration of his intention to become a British subject, before a justice of the peace, or before a justice of the peace, authorized to take affidavits or affirmations under the Oaths Act, 1892, or before the gold commissioner or mining recorder, shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges of a free miner, and shall be considered a free miner, upon taking out a free miner's certificate. A stranger under this act can dispose of his claim until such alien has become, according to law, a naturalized subject. A minor who shall become a free miner shall, as regards his mining property and liabilities contracted in connection therewith, be treated as of full age. A free miner's certificate issued to a joint stock company shall be issued in its corporate name. A free miner's certificate shall not be transferable."

Mr. Graham moved to strike out the words "No alien under this act can dispose of his claim until such alien has become according to law a naturalized subject," and to insert in lieu thereof that no person other than a British subject shall receive a crown grant after the passage of this act."

Mr. Graham's amendment was lost on a vote of 13 to 12.

Mr. Braden's section was carried and applause on a vote of 15 to 13.

The house reported completed with amendments at 11:10 and then the house adjourned.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

Mr. Walkem—That a humble address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, praying him to communicate with the Dominion government and urge

upon them the necessity of having the naturalization laws so amended that, in the case of Chinese or Japanese, residence of ten years shall be required before naturalization can be granted, and also that in their cases they shall appear in person before the judge of the court to complete the formalities.

Hon. Mr. Martin—to introduce an act to amend the land act.

NOTICE OF QUESTION.

By Mr. Kidd—What modifications have been made or promised to be made by the government in the leases of the Burnaby small holdings?

Friday, April 30th, 1897.

The Speaker took the chair at 2 o'clock; prayers by Rev. D. MacRae.

CROWN GRANTS.

Mr. Macpherson moved the following resolution: "That an order of the house be granted for a return showing: 1. The number of crown grants issued since 17th April, 1896. 2. Statement of how many, and which of them, contained the provision for bringing such grants into accord with section 13 of the Land Act, 1896. 3. Wording of such clause." The resolution carried.

SONGHEES RESERVE.

Mr. Helmcken moved that a humble address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, requesting him to be caused to be laid before the house copies of any further correspondence which has passed between his government and the government of the Dominion of Canada, with reference to the question of the removal of the Indians from the Songhees reserve, since the return dated the 17th March, 1897, was presented to this house. The resolution carried.

ADMIRALTY HOUSE.

Mr. Helmcken moved that "Whereas on the 30th June, 1896, the commandant-in-chief of the British squadron on the Pacific station approached the government of the province of British Columbia on the subject of a residence for the admiral who commands the Pacific; and whereas the vicinity of Esquimalt harbor presents a suitable site, and it is in the interests of the province that a site for such residence should be obtained: Be it therefore resolved, that the said communication should receive the respectful consideration of the government of the province of British Columbia." Mr. Helmcken said that the return shows that the admiral had made an advance through the commissioner of lands and works with reference to a residence for the admiral. The government had evidently not sent a final answer to the admiral. His resolution did not seek to bind the government in any way, but only asked them to give the matter consideration. Hon. Mr. Braden advanced the motion which such a residence should be erected.

Mr. Booth would vote against the resolution because the government should be left free to deal with the matter as they saw fit. He moved the postponement of the debate for three months.

Mr. Semlin asked if the motion was in order, as it suggested an expenditure of public money for three months.

The speaker ruled that the motion was quite in order.

Mr. Semlin then stated that the matter was purely an imperial one, and the movements of the commandant-in-chief could not be influenced by the erection of a residence. The whole matter should be left to the imperial authorities.

Mr. Booth's amendment to postpone consideration for three months was carried by a vote of 17 to 11.

QUARANTINE.

Dr. Walkem moved and Mr. Helmcken seconded: "Whereas smallpox, cholera, plague and other infectious and contagious diseases have been introduced into this country and the Orient is at the present time, by means of the lines of large steamers which bring weekly to our shores a large number of Chinese and Japanese immigrants, with their baggage, direct from the plague-stricken sections of these countries; and whereas an epidemic of smallpox occurred in Victoria, Vancouver and Seattle in 1892, the source of infection being brought in by one of the Oriental steamers; and whereas during the present year smallpox has been brought in by several of these vessels to William Head quarantine station; and whereas the prevention and disinfection of the said immigrants and the presence of the said immigrants in this country and the Orient, being a serious matter to our country, commercially, and particularly at the present initial stage of development of trade between this country and the Orient; and whereas the present secretary of the provincial board of health has paid a visit to China and Japan, and on his return stated to the city council of Victoria the dangers of infection which this country is constantly exposed to by communication with the East, and has recommended that the quarantining of Oriental immigrants, and the disinfection of their baggage, should be done before they are allowed to leave or embark at Oriental ports; therefore, be it resolved, that in the opinion of this house the Dominion government should take such steps as will insure a proper detention in quarantine of intending Oriental immigrants, and the disinfection of their baggage, before embarking at the various Oriental ports, and that an humble address be presented to His Honor the

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Lieutenant-Governor, asking him to communicate this resolution to the Dominion government.

Dr. Walkem said if the matter of disinfection was stringently observed on the other side there would not be as great a necessity for detention at the quarantine station here, and there would be less liability of passengers on board the steamers contracting infectious diseases.

Mr. Helmcken referred to the letter from the quarantine appearing in the Colonist. He held that while the people of this province would sympathize with the passengers, the health of the residents must also be considered. If the methods suggested in the resolution were adopted, the probability of such a condition of affairs as obtain at present at the quarantine station would be materially lessened.

The motion was then carried unanimously.

NATURALIZATION.

Dr. Walkem moved and Mr. Helmcken seconded: "That a humble address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, praying him to communicate with the Dominion government and urge upon them the necessity of having naturalization laws so amended that, in the case of Chinese or Japanese, residence of ten years shall be required before naturalization can be granted, and also that in their cases they shall appear in person before the judge of the court to complete the formalities."

Dr. Walkem said that there was a great necessity for a change in the naturalization law. From the newspapers it was learned that a large number of Chinese had declared their intention of becoming British subjects, and many more had been naturalized. Several of these Chinese who had appeared before the county judge in person were refused their papers because all declared that they were bound to return to China.

The motion then carried.

The report of the committee on the revised statutes bill was adopted.

ANTI-ALIEN CLAUSE.

The following telegrams were then received:

"Hon. D. W. Higgins, Victoria.—Passage of alien amendments will have most disastrous effect here. It is positively suicidal. John R. Reavis."

"A. Williams, M.P.P., Victoria.—Surely that alien amendment will be chopped. Nothing but mischief can result. Kootenay wants progress not retrograde legislation. W. G. Johnson."

"T. Fred Hume, M.P.P., Victoria.—Kootenay Mining Protective Association ask you to do our utmost to bring an alien clause. It will seriously injure Kootenay if carried. J. G. Proctor."

"Speaker Higgins, House of Commons, Victoria.—Without any enterprise Kootenay mining and prosperity will be a failure. We want aliens. G. H. Bayne."

Mr. Kellie asked if the senders of the telegrams were British subjects.

The speaker said Mr. Reavis was a British subject by choice, and that the others were not consulted in the matter. They were British subjects by birth.

CASSIAR CENTRAL.

The house then went into committee on the Cassiar Railway Aid bill with Mr. Huff in the chair.

Mr. Sward said when the house passed the company's act of incorporation they had no knowledge that an aid bill was going to be brought down, and had therefore allowed the company three years to begin construction. It was not right that the company should have three years to decide whether it was worth their while to accept this land.

Hon. Mr. Turner said that in the meantime the land would not be locked up.

Mr. Sward said the whole bill was a mistake, and it would be a mistake for the committee to pass it.

Mr. Sward moved an amendment to the effect that the company should commence within one year and construct its main line within two years after the passage of this act.

Mr. Turner said such

PROTESTS USELESS ROSSLAND ROBBERY MINING COMPANIES JAPANESE ARE MAD NEW COMPANIES ACT

The Cabin Passengers on the China Have to Submit to the Regulations.

They Greatly Hampered the Doctor by Refusing to Leave the Ship.

Dr. John Davie, chairman of the provincial board of health, to-day paid a visit to the Dominion quarantine station at William Head. He fully endorses the steps which have been taken by Dr. Watt, superintendent of quarantine, to prevent the introduction of smallpox from the Empress of China.

To artificially bleach the hair will destroy its growth; but if the hair inclines to grayness, a natural way to arrest it with Hall's Hair Renewer.

If you are nervous or dyspeptic try Carter's Little Liver Pills, they will cure you; either one renders you miserable, and these pills cure both.

DISAPPEARED. John Ross is Supposed to Have Taken His Own Life.

Yesterday afternoon it was reported to the police that John Ross, an old man who has been working at Joe Levy's restaurant on Government street, was missing, and since then, although a most thorough search has been made, no trace of his whereabouts has been discovered.

His friends are of the opinion that he has committed suicide, as he has threatened to do so quite frequently in the past few weeks. He has been very erratic and despondent, in fact he was under the impression—judging from remarks he dropped while working in the restaurant—that he was to be hanged for a crime he had committed during the night.

AWARDED HIGHEST HONORS—World's Fair, DR. J. C. BARKER'S CREAM BAKING POWDER MOST PERFECT MADE.

A pure Grape Cream of Tartar Powder. Free from Ammonia, Alum or any other adulterant. 40 YEARS THE STANDARD.

Ed. Johnson Arrested in San Francisco on Suspicion of Being Implicated.

Supt. Hussey Left Last Evening for the Bay City-Collins Connection.

Superintendent Hussey of the provincial police left for San Francisco this evening, having received information yesterday afternoon to the effect that a young man giving his name as Ed. Johnson had been arrested in the Bay City-Collins robbery of Chaloner, Mitchell & Spring's jewellery store at Rossland on February 24th.

From information gathered by the police there seems to have been a number of men connected with the robbery, if not directly, at least as assistants of the principals in distributing the stolen goods. "Cuckoo" Jim Collins, recently arrested for a robbery at Sacramento which he committed in Denver in 1893, is related to last evening's Times' news to be the chief of the gang.

THE SEALING INDUSTRY. In compliance with a resolution of the legislature, Hon. Col. Casser yesterday presented a return relating to the sealing industry.

The committee of council observe that such action as appears probable as soon as the seal season opens, through the Dominion government, through the government of Her Majesty, and the government of the United States, would practically destroy the sealing industry.

The committee call attention to the fact that the present regulations have seriously affected the sealing industry, and that in consequence of the restrictions imposed thereunder, the catch of the season of 1896 was 55,677 skins, as compared with 73,614 in 1895, and 91,474 in 1894.

The committee point out that the present regulations are in many particulars arbitrary and excessively severe, and that, instead of increasing the restrictions, any negotiations on the part of Her Majesty's government should be, in the opinion of the committee, in the direction of their modification and for provision against the hardship and loss of the fleet arising out of the seizures on merely suspicious circumstances.

The committee recommend that the inadvisability of agreeing to further restrictive regulations be strongly urged upon the Dominion government, and also so far as the Dominion government is concerned, that a copy of this minute be, if approved, forwarded to the secretary of state for Canada.

Hood's Sarsaparilla is known to be an honest medicine, and it actually cures when all others fail. Take it now.

Notice of the Incorporation of Eighteen New Companies in Yesterday's Gazette.

Branch of the Western Federation of Miners Organized at Rossland.

But eighteen mining companies were incorporated during the past week, according to the notices published in last evening's official Gazette, a small number compared with previous weeks since the commencement of the mining boom.

Another organization recently incorporated that is of interest to miners is the Western Federation of Miners. It is incorporated under the Benevolent Societies' Act, the trustees being the following residents of Rossland: William Gibson, Robert Brannack, Denis Lynch, John Kennedy, Thomas McGoldrick, John Riley, James Cusick, Edward Walsh, Thomas Stephenson, F. J. Holohan, John McDonald.

The full list of new mining companies follows: Derby Mining Company, Nelson, \$1,000,000. Falls View Gold & Silver Mining Company, Kaslo, \$300,000. Gold Bar Mining Company, Victoria, \$100,000.

Harrison Black Diamond Company, Vancouver, \$50,000. Hope Mining & Milling Company, Vancouver, \$500,000. John E. Redmond Mining Company, Grand Forks, \$1,000,000. Rossland, \$1,000,000. Kinross Mining & Milling Co., Victoria, \$1,000,000. Lardner-Trount Lake Mining Syndicate, Victoria, \$500,000.

A special meeting of the shareholders of the said Mountain Mining & Development Company will be held at Golden on May 25th.

Free Trade England Continues to Enjoy Increased Prosperity.

London, April 29.—The chancellor of the exchequer, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, read the budget in the house of commons to-day. The balance of account for 1896-97 shows the expenditure £101,477,000, leaving a surplus of £2,479,000.

Sir William Harcourt, the Liberal leader, referring to the £200,000 set apart in the budget estimates for strengthening the British garrison in South Africa, said this sum was for a war policy in South Africa which the opposition was determined to resist.

More cases of stick headache biliousness constipation can be cured in less time with Carter's Little Liver Pills than by any other means.

A Good Deal of Excitement in Honolulu Over Rejection of Asiatic Immigrants.

Japanese Official Newspapers Full of War Talk—Grave Complications Have Arisen.

San Francisco, April 29.—Advice from the Associated Press correspondent received by the Doric from Yokohama this morning says the Japanese government is ardent over the refusal of the Hawaiian government to permit the Shinshu Maru immigrants to land, and has ordered warships to Honolulu to enforce what the Japanese emigrants chose to consider their rights.

The foreign office instructed Hogo Kaneko at Kobe on the 9th inst. to stop departing emigrants for these islands at once. Grave complications have arisen, according to Japanese official newspapers, over the Japanese refusal to permit the Shinshu Maru to land, and has ordered warships to Honolulu to enforce what the Japanese emigrants chose to consider their rights.

The Japanese official papers are full of war talk such as this. The Chuo states that a telegram has been received by the Japanese government to the effect that England has sent an intimation to the United States government that she objects to the intended annexation by the latter to the Hawaiian republic.

The United States cruiser Philadelphia has been here for four days. It is now quite certain that Admiral Beardslee has not come to Honolulu clothed with executive power to execute a special mission for his government. Had he come to annex the islands or to reseat the ex-Queen, her throne, he certainly would not have left his ship and with his officers accept the hospitality of friends on shore.

The committee have also amended the part relating to the management and administration of companies. They have imposed a condition that every company under this act must have a registered office within the province. More stringent provisions have been inserted for the protection of members.

In the part dealing with licensing and

Dr. BOBERTZ The old reliable and celebrated Detroit Specialist still treating with greatest success all Nervous and Chronic Diseases.

Dr. BOBERTZ and you can rely upon being speedily and permanently restored to FINANCIAL MANHOOD. Describe your case fully and a book containing valuable advice, testimonials and full information how to obtain a perfect cure at home, safely and without delay, will be sent to you in a sealed envelope free of charge. Address: naming this paper: Dr. Bobertz, 282 Woodward Ave., DETROIT, MICH.

The Select Committee Have Materially Altered the Bill Introduced in the House.

Registration Fees Increased—Only British Companies Can Be Licensed.

Hon. Mr. Eberts presented to the house yesterday the report of the select committee to whom was referred the Companies Act. It will be remembered that the attorney-general introduced an act for the incorporation and regulation of joint stock companies and trading corporations at the beginning of the session.

The "Interpretation" is redrawn and new clauses are inserted from the 1897 Ontario Act. In fact the committee used the new Ontario Act largely for the purpose of amending the bill. The committee have added to the bill a new part relating to the extraordinary powers of companies under this act.

The following new sections have been added to the new Ontario act. 27. Every contract, agreement, engagement or bargain made, and every bill of exchange drawn, accepted, or indorsed, and every promissory note and cheque made, drawn, or indorsed on behalf of the company by an agent, officer, or servant of the company, in general accordance with his powers as such under the regulations of the company, shall be binding upon the company; and in no case shall it be necessary to have the seal of the company affixed to any such contract, agreement, engagement, bargain, bill of exchange, promissory note, or cheque, or to prove that the same was made, drawn, accepted, or indorsed, as the case may be, in pursuance of any regulations, or special resolution or order; nor shall the party so acting as agent, officer, or servant of the company be thereby subjected individually to any liability whatsoever to any third party therefor.

Nothing in this act shall be construed to authorize the company to issue any note payable to the bearer thereof, or any promissory note intended to be circulated as money, or as the note of a bank or to engage in the business of banking. (New) 28. The directors of the company shall not declare or pay any dividend when the company is insolvent, or diminishes the capital thereof, but if any director present when such dividend is declared, forthwith, or if any director thereafter causes this act to be published at or near his place of business, or to the head office or chief place of business of the company, such director may thereby, and not otherwise, exonerate himself from liability. (New) 29. No loan shall be made by the company to any shareholder, and if such loan is made to any directors and other officers of the company making the same, and in any wise assenting thereto, shall be jointly and severally liable to the company for the amount thereof, and also to third parties to the extent of such loan with legal interest, for all debts of the company contracted from the time of the making of the loan to that of the payment thereof; but this section shall not apply to a building society, or to a company incorporated for the lending of money. (New) 30. The committee have also amended the part relating to the management and administration of companies. They have imposed a condition that every company under this act must have a registered office within the province. More stringent provisions have been inserted for the protection of members.

Monthly Competition for B.C. for the Year 1897. \$1,500 IN Bicycles AND WATCHES GIVEN FREE FOR Sunlight Soap Wrappers. 1 Stearns Bicycle each month. 1 Gold Watch each month. A total value of \$1,500 GIVEN FREE.

HOW TO OBTAIN THEM. For rules and full particulars see Saturday issue of this paper, or apply by post card to C. H. KING, Victoria, Agent for Sunlight Soap.

registration of companies, the committee have entirely redrawn the provisions, so that any act can carry on business until licensed, and the right to get license is restricted to British companies. The provisions in the bill relating to banking have been struck out. The committee have increased the fees to be paid for registration of joint stock companies. For registration of companies whose capital does not exceed \$10,000 the fee has been increased from \$10 to \$25.

London, May 4.—The following dispatch from correspondent, dated 3 p.m. "When I arrived at Velestino yesterday I had just seen in the papers an advertisement in which Greeks, 12,000 strong, and Smolenski, by whose side I encounter in the rear of the men under Col. Galimbetti advanced one battalion to the war, the other supported which had guns on the right. "The seventh regiment of the Col. Regli, advanced to the left, where it were in position. "General Smolenski had of the following dispatch from correspondent, dated 3 p.m. "When I arrived at Velestino yesterday I had just seen in the papers an advertisement in which Greeks, 12,000 strong, and Smolenski, by whose side I encounter in the rear of the men under Col. Galimbetti advanced one battalion to the war, the other supported which had guns on the right. "The seventh regiment of the Col. Regli, advanced to the left, where it were in position. 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