

Hon. Mr. Drake's motion was also withdrawn.

Hon. Mr. Holbrook's motion was put and lost.

Hon. Mr. Robson's motion was put and lost.

Hon. Mr. HUMPHREYS moved:—

"That in the consideration of the subsidies to be given by Canada to this Colony, due weight shall be given to the advisability of abolishing the present road tolls on the Yale-Cariboo road, and also to make provision for funds to keep the same in repair."

I put this in consequence of the suggestions thrown out by the Hon. Chief Commissioner. I think these road tolls have done more towards making bankrupts than any over-trading. They are main trunk roads, and I think they ought to be kept up by the Dominion Government.

Hon. ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I am not aware that that is the result of a suggestion of the Hon. Chief Commissioner. I am aware of his views, and I believe he has doubts as to whether roads can be maintained by a Government so far removed as Canada.

Hon. Mr. BARNARD—I would suggest that this be laid over till the Hon. Chief Commissioner be here.

Hon. ATTORNEY-GENERAL—The Hon. Chief Commissioner would not object to any conclusion of the House on this matter. But I caution Hon. Members not, by the addition of these suggestions, so to overload the resolutions as to break down the whole of them.

Hon. Mr. BARNARD—I move that the Committee rise and report progress, in order that the matter may be laid over until the Hon. Chief Commissioner is in his place.

Committee rose and reported progress.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 25TH, 1870.

On Mr. Humphreys' motion on roads being read, the Hon. Attorney-General said:—

I regret to say that my honourable colleague, the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, is still too much indisposed to attend to his place in this House. I would, therefore, suggest that the Honourable Member should postpone his notice until he is present.

Hon. Mr. HUMPHREYS—I have no objection to defer it, on the understanding that it comes up on Monday.

Hon. ATTORNEY-GENERAL—On Monday, or this day, if the Committee get through with their other motions on Confederation.

Hon. Mr. RING—I desire to introduce a motion with regard to free port, but I do not intend to inflict upon the House a speech. I move that His Excellency be respectfully requested to place in the terms a clause to restore to Victoria the system of free port antecedent to Confederation. The Honourable Member for New Westminster was indignant with me yesterday for not supporting his resolution. I only say that his proposition was hypercritical. I ask that we may have free port restored before Confederation. We have now the right to legislate for ourselves on this point. Hereafter we shall be at the mercy of the Canadian Parliament at Ottawa. I would make free port one of the conditions of Confederation; but first restore free port.

On the Clerk reading the first words of the resolution,—

Hon. Dr. CARRALL—I rise to a point of order. I say that this question has been already decided.

CHAIRMAN—I think the Hon. Member for Nanaimo is not out of order on that point. The question of free port yesterday related to free port after Confederation. The resolution of the Hon. Member for Nanaimo is in reference to free port antecedent to Confederation.

Hon. Mr. DECOSMOS—The Hon. Member is surely out of order, this Committee having met to consider Confederate resolutions.

CHAIRMAN—I rule that the Hon. Mr. Ring is in order, as his resolution refers to the terms of Confederation now before this Committee.

On the Hon. Mr. Ring's motion being put to vote, it was lost.