be refunded. This contention was pressed, and last session, on Mr. German's motion, Messrs. Foy, Pardee, Miscampbell, Charlton and Auld were the committee appointed to deal with the question. They recommended that the whole question be submitted to two Judges of the Court of Appeal. This recommendation was acted upon and the Government appointed Mr. Justice

Osler and Mr. Justice Lister, who held the first sitting at the Parliament buildings on Saturday. Mr. Amelius Irving, K.C., was present for the Government, Dr. Kennedy for the Crown Lands Department, and Mr. G. H. Watson, K.C., for the estate. No evidence was taken and it was decided after a brief discussion to commence the case a fortnight hence.

Increase in Death Rate.

The February report of the Provincial Board of Health shows that 2,484 deaths were reported, as against 1,962 for the corresponding month last year, although last month only 90 per cent. of the population reported, while 97 per cent. reported in 1900. There was a large increase in the deaths from consumption, the figures being 238, as against 186 in February, 1900. The comparative table of deaths from contagious diseases is as follows.

 Feb.,1901. Feb.,1900.

 Scarlatina
 21
 14

 Diphtheria
 40
 39

 Measles
 8
 7

 Whooping Cough
 9
 3

 Typhoid
 24
 13

 Tuberculosis
 238
 186

The smallpox report up to March 25th shows 124 cases in the Province. In twelve districts the disease has been completely checked.