

week the Government expected His Excellency the Lieut. Governor to come and assent to some measures which required speedy enactment.

Mr. BLAKE suggested that the title of this Act should be "an Act respecting the Statutes," and not as at present, "an Act respecting the Interpretation and construction of the Statutes." It was a Bill which added clauses, provided for the distribution of the statutes, for a Queen's Printer, and so on; and took such a course as to require the title he sug-

gested had been adopted, and concurred in, the Commission of the Bill as amended should be received on Monday.

MEMBER FOR  
S. McDONALD,

Member of the  
Committee of the

Whole—Mr. Graham (York) in the chair—to consider the resolutions appointing an inspector of hospitals, asylums, reformatories and prisons in Ontario, except the Provincial Penitentiary.

Hon. J. S. McDONALD said he proposed to fill up the blank for salary with \$2,000, which should include travelling expenses. The bill to be introduced, would authorize the Lieutenant Governor in Council to prescribe rules and regulations for the inspection. When the estimates came down, he would ask the house for an additional sum, for a special inspection of lunatic asylums.

Mr. BLAKE—For a permanent officer?

Hon. J. S. McDONALD—No; for a temporary inspection. The Government, for example, might avail themselves of the services of the able Superintendent of the Toronto Asylum, to examine the other asylums through the country.

Mr. BLAKE said if the prison inspector received a salary which included travelling expenses, the result would be that the less he travelled and discharged his duties, the greater would be his income.

Hon. J. S. McDONALD said the person accepting the office would be told that his expenses would be paid by the Government, and if the sum now proposed was insufficient to cover travelling expenses, the house would be asked to grant a higher sum.

Sir HENRY SMITH thought the observation of the member for South Bruce worthy of attention. It might be well that the Bill should specify a certain number of visits as necessary. He had heard of the inspectors going to the western part of the country, staying an hour or two, and returning home by the return train, and this they called an inspection. He hoped the inspector to be appointed would make a thorough inspection, and report on the sanitary and moral condition of our prisons, and suggest such improvements as might be called for. He was told the travelling expenses of the late inspectors were very large; he supposed they charged first class fare, but he had seen one of them riding in a second class car.

Mr. SWINARTON said the county of Peel had reason to know something about these inspectors, having been put to an unnecessary expense of \$7,000 or \$8,000 by their mismanagement. They had altered the plans of the county buildings three times. They had ordered three yards enclosed in stone walls, when one would have been amply sufficient. The county sometimes had scarcely a prisoner apiece to put in them. If hon. gentlemen would speak their minds, he was sure the general testimony would be that the inspectors were incompetent. He hoped a judicious choice would be made by the Government in the next selection.

Mr. TROW thought the duties of inspection of asylums, hospitals, &c., were so different from those of deciding on plans for gaols, &c., that one officer could scarcely be expected to perform both classes of duties.

Hon. J. S. McDONALD said the Government would endeavour to appoint an officer who would meet the public expectations. They had sufficient evidence that the late inspection had not been satisfactory.

Sir HENRY SMITH—No doubt of that.

Hon. J. S. McDONALD said if any members thought the system had been satisfactory, he would like them to say so. All the testimony he had heard was to the effect that the inspectors had paid little attention to their duties in Upper Canada. So far as his part of the country was concerned, he knew that they came by train in the morning, saw the gaoler, stayed fifteen minutes, took it

for granted all was right, and made their report.

Mr. SCOTT (Ottawa) was not prepared to join in the onslaught on the Prison Inspectors. So far as his knowledge went, he thought they were entitled to the thanks of the country. The chief prejudice against them had arisen from the fact that they had found the prisons in a very defective state, and the Councils did not appreciate the changes which the Inspectors thought necessary. Their idea was to assimilate, as far as possible, the condition of our gaols; and to carry that out, it became necessary to make large and expensive changes. He thought they had contributed very much to the improvement of the prisons of the country.

Mr. COYNE said he was in a position to corroborate the remarks of the member for Cardwell (Mr. Swinarton). There might be some force in the statement of the member for Ottawa as regarded the old counties; but in Peel, new buildings were to be erected, and the plans having been submitted to the Prison Inspectors, were confirmed by them. The buildings were almost completed when the Inspectors came and found fault with almost everything that had been done according to their own plans, and put the county to a great expense. They would not be satisfied without bringing an architect of their own to Brampton.

Sir HENRY SMITH—Who was that?

Mr. COYNE—Mr. Horsey.

Sir HENRY SMITH—He is a good man.

Mr. COYNE—But the County of Peel had a good engineer of their own, and the bringing another engineer subjected the county to more inconvenience and expense. Even after they had made the alterations to suit the Inspectors, one of the alterations was objected to, and they had to go back and undo the work.

The resolutions were then adopted.

Report to be received on Monday.

#### AGRICULTURAL BILL.

On motion of Hon. Mr. CARLING, the house went into committee on the Bill for the encouragement of Agriculture, Horticulture, Arts and Manufactures—Mr. SCOTT (Ottawa) in the chair.

Clauses 1 to 33 were adopted without discussion.

Mr. BLAKE called attention to the provisions of clause 34. The first section of it recognized only such societies as were heretofore organized. Now societies had been formed in Bruce and Huron since Parliament met, but they were not organized, and hence would be excluded. He would suggest that the words "and shall be deemed to be" be added after the words "may be," in the first line, and that the words in the third, fourth and fifth lines, from "but as constituted" to "passing of this Act," be struck out.

This suggestion was concurred in.

Clause 36, which had reference to calling the first meeting for the formation of a County or Electoral Division Agricultural Society, provided that the meeting should be called by the Warden of the County or Union of Counties.

In amendment it was proposed that subsection 1, section 36, be amended, by providing that: "It shall be lawful for the Warden or Reeve of any three townships in the Division, or the Mayor of any Electoral Division," &c.

Mr. RYKERT said that in counties like Monck and others newly organized, it was difficult to say how this could be done. Who was to be the warden to call the meeting in the case of counties recently carved out of others?

It was suggested that the call should be made by, say, three wardens.

Mr. COYNE could not see how the latter proposition would be beneficial—as wardens living at great distances from each other could not conveniently consult.

Mr. GRAHAM (Hastings) suggested that the member representing such electoral division should call the meeting.

Mr. RYKERT approved of this suggestion.

Mr. CARNEGIE moved that the member or members for the riding should call the meeting.

Hon. Mr. CARLING had no objection, and the clause was amended in that way.

At this stage of the proceedings, about ten minutes to six,

Sir HENRY SMITH rose and said that as they had made very fair progress with the public business that night, and members were anxious to adjourn in order to be present at the University College Conversazione—the House ought to adjourn. Some 36 sections of the Bill introduced by the

Minister of Agriculture had been got through, and it was to be hoped the hon. the Commissioner would have no objection to the committee rising, reporting progress and asking leave to sit again.

Hon. Mr. CARLING said he would not object.

The committee then rose, reported progress and asked leave to sit again on Monday next.

The House adjourned till three o'clock on Monday.