

Mr. BLAKE said he was not going to oppose this Bill; but it appeared to him that the House should pronounce in favour of a uniform system of graduation. He thought the sense of the House—as expressed on a former occasion—was strongly in favour of coming as soon as possible to a uniform and elevated standard of graduation. He would move that the following words be added to the Bill:—

“That this House, while enlarging the graduating powers of Albert College to the extent of those already possessed by other like institutions, adheres to the views already expressed as to the importance of establishing a uniform and elevated standard of graduation.”

The motion was carried, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

QUEEN CITY FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

On the motion for the third reading of Bill to incorporate the Queen City Fire Insurance Company—Hon. Mr. Cameron.

Mr. BOYD moved that the Bill be referred back to committee of the whole for the purpose of adding a proviso that the company should deposit ten per cent of the paid-up capital in the hands of the Provincial Treasurer, to be invested in Dominion stock or Provincial securities. His object was to establish a very important principle. The present was the first instance in which this Legislature had been called upon to charter a joint stock company of this character. According to the requirements of the Dominion Act, the promoters of such companies were obliged to deposit in the hands of the Dominion Government a certain deposit, in order that if the parties became insolvent the fund might be for the benefit of creditors. In looking over the Dominion Act he had found several clauses referring to this provision, on the wording of one of which he had founded his motion.

Mr. CAMERON said that it was only asked to place this company on the same footing as these already existing. The hon. gentleman had not shown that this provision would protect the public, nor that it was required.

Attorney-General MACDONALD suggested that the hon. member for Prescott (Mr. Boyd) should give notice of such a resolution, so that the principle might be incorporated in all future legislation of this character, and notice would thus be given to all parties who might propose to come before the Legislature for charters. The principle was one which would add much to the security of the public, and he thought was one which was very much required.

Mr. BLAKE was glad to hear that the Attorney General was in favour of the general public. This was no doubt because the public security required it, and he (Mr. Blake) could not see why they should charter any company without securing the interest of the public. He would suggest that the principle should be applied to the present company, which might be secured a certain time within which to fulfil its provisions.

The amendment of Mr. Boyd was put, and declared lost on a division.

The Bill was then read a third time and passed.

CHURCH STREET, LONDON.

On the motion for the third reading of the Bill to close part of Church street, in the city of London, and was the same in the corporation of the said city.—Hon. Mr. Cameron.

Mr. McLELLAN moved that it be referred back to the Private Bills Committee, in order that further evidence might be taken. He understood that a gentleman whose property was proposed to be taken, had been sick, and he hoped the House would afford him an opportunity of giving his evidence.

Mr. CARLING said he had no objection, and the Bill was consequently referred back as proposed.

PROCEDURE OF SUPERIOR COURTS.

Mr. RYKERT moved that the Bill to amend the Act to regulate the procedure of the Superior Courts of Common Law, and of the County Courts, be not now read a third time, but be referred to the Committee of the Whole with instructions to substitute in the last clause, the word “June” for “July.” Carried.

The Committee rose and reported the Bill, which was read a third time and passed.

COMMISSIONERS OF POLICE.

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD moved the third reading of the Bill respecting Commissioners of Police.

The Bill was read a third time and passed.

LONDON LUNATIC ASYLUM.

Hon. Mr. CARLING presented, in accordance with a previously expressed desire by Mr. Blake, a report with regard to the health of the inmates of the London Lunatic Asylum.

Mr. BLAKE said at an early period of the session he had moved for certain details respecting this institution. They had not yet been given.

Hon. Mr. CARLING said that if they were in the Public Works Department he would bring them down to-morrow.

It now being six o'clock the House rose for recess.

After recess, Hon. J. S. MACDONALD moved that on and after Tuesday there should be two distinct sittings of the House. Carried.

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE REPORTERS.

Mr. CHRISTIE brought before the House the subject of the remuneration owing to reporters employed on the Upper Canada College committee of last session.

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD said he objected to the proposition; and unless with the consent of the Government it could not be brought forward.

Mr. CHRISTIE said that to refuse this claim would be an act of great injustice. The committee on the Upper Canada College met last session, and the chairman of the committee—the hon. member for Peterborough—urged that reporters should be employed to

take a verbatim report for the committee. He (Mr. Christie) and other members of that committee had stated—so important was the business that came before the committee—that unless reporters were retained the sitting of the committee would be next to useless. As soon as reporters were obtained, the chairman called the committee together. The reporters continued for two or three sittings to take the evidence verbatim. They took it very carefully indeed, and bestowed a very considerable amount of labour on it. To refuse payment for this important, and to the reporters, exhausting labour, would be an act of injustice. The former session, during an investigation that was had, a reporter was retained, and this was done by the Provincial Secretary, who was chairman of the committee. The reporter was paid on that occasion, and why not now? The appointment of a reporter the session previous to the last one, was a sufficient precedent for the committee on the Upper Canada College—was ample justification for appointing a reporter themselves. He thought it would be an act of injustice—in fact an act of fraud—if the House disclaimed the payment of this debt. He found it was in accordance with British Parliamentary practice to retain reporters to take down verbatim reports of evidence; and he thought the Government ought to consent to this just and equitable demand. The amount was very small, and had been laboriously earned by the reporters who were engaged in taking the evidence on a highly important subject.

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD proceeded to attack Mr. Christie for his investigation of the affairs of the Upper Canada College, and said that though the evidence had been reported, the institution remained untouched. It was a broken-down examination, and had cost a large amount in printing. The payment of the reporters would be considered by the Government, and a reasonable amount would be given to them. But the Government would put its face against this description of outlay.

Mr. SCOTT (Ottawa) said the question was settled at the very first session that members of this House should be ignored by the Government. The Upper Canada College Committee was a very respectable body, and such important witnesses as Dr. Ryerson were examined before it. The country was deeply interested in that committee; for there was no use disguising the truth—the circumstances connected with the Upper Canada College had been largely discussed by the Teachers' Association and by the press of Upper Canada. The evidence laid before the Committee was exceedingly important, and could not have been taken except by reporters. The House—if not by direct order, at least by acquiescence—had instructed the chairman of the committee to employ a shorthand reporter. He (Mr. Scott) was sorry, for the dignity of this House, that this item had remained so long unpaid; and it was due to the honour of the chairman of the committee that it should have been paid long ago. It would have been an act of courtesy to this House if the Government, at the first, had admitted that this was a necessary charge, and had paid it.

Mr. CARNEGIE said he had brought the matter twice before the House, as to the necessity of having a reporter; and, though the motion was withdrawn, it was distinctly understood that the appointment required no formal order of the House. He (Mr. Carnegie), as chairman of the committee, spoke to Mr. Vance, who procured him a reporter. The evidence was taken down, and he understood it was to be paid for, and printed; but it was not printed. The reporter's account had been sent to him, and he had certified it; in the meantime the account had never been paid. The point attempted to be made by the Attorney-General for the Upper Canada College had failed, and he would yet find that the inquiry was not at an end, and that the House and country would not sanction the outlay on that building. He was sorry to see that, with the sanction of the Government, \$200.00 had been spent this summer on that building, the amount having been taken out of the Endowment Fund.

Mr. BOYD said that the remarks of the Attorney General compelled him to say that he (Mr. Boyd) had to make a disturbance for services rendered in discharge of a public duty. Last session a question as to the privilege of the House came up for discussion—a question affecting the character of an officer of the House. The services of a shorthand reporter were necessary, and he, as chairman of the committee, engaged one, and certified his account. The account was not paid; and he (Mr. Boyd) feeling that it was unjust that the reporter should remain unpaid, gave that gentleman a cheque for \$25 out of his own pocket.

Mr. McLELLAN expressed his pleasure at the statement of the Atty.-General that the amount would be paid. He thought the country owed a debt of gratitude to the hon. member for North Westworth (Mr. Christie), for his exertions in this Upper Canada matter. The Attorney General had spoken of the hon. member not having made his mark, but he thought that there were many members of the House who, having made their mark, would be glad to have it wiped out again. He believed that the course of the hon. member for North Westworth would be endorsed by his constituency. It was true that he did not occupy the time of the House as much as other members, but when he spoke he spoke intelligently and well on the question before the House. He would like to see the evidence printed.

Hon. Mr. WOOD thought it would lead to great expenditure if every chairman of a committee considered it within his province to employ a shorthand writer.

Mr. CARNEGIE—This matter was brought before the House, and it was stated that the Committee would not go on unless a reporter was employed.

Mr. FERRIER—It was the understanding of the whole Committee.

Hon. Mr. WOOD said he was not aware of this. He agreed with the remarks of the hon. Attorney-General, who he understood was prepared to consider this case as an exceptional one.

Mr. RYKERT said he did not agree with the hon. member for Ottawa, that every chairman of a committee should have the right to employ a clerk or reporter; but he thought that when an important committee

was struck, it should receive instructions as to whom it should employ; and if the gentlemen composing it thought the proceedings should be reported, they should bring the matter under the notice of the House, and ask permission to employ a reporter. He was glad, as a friend of Upper Canada College, that the investigation had been carried on, and agreed with the Attorney-General that it had resulted in very little. That the reports were well done admitted of no doubt whatever (hear, hear,) and the gentleman who was employed to make the report ought to be paid. He could not see the use of the continual attacks of hon. gentlemen on Upper Canada College; but the result had been that the institution was stronger in the affections of the people than ever before.

Attorney-General MACDONALD said that he believed the people were well satisfied with the economical manner in which the Government had been carried on. If they had not resisted the claims made upon them, the Province would not be in its present proud position. He combated the view of the hon. member for Ottawa.

Mr. SCOTT said the case in question was a peculiar one, the committee being unanimous in their opinion that it was necessary to employ a shorthand reporter, which was tacitly agreed to by the House.

Mr. PARBEE said the Government might be entitled to credit for resisting attacks on the public purse, but it would be entitled to greater credit if it did not make unfair attacks upon hon. members. The whole charge of the Attorney-General upon the hon. member for North Westworth had been proved to have been unfounded. It was shown by the straightforward utterance of the hon. member for Peterborough, that it was one of his own supporters who was chairman of the committee, and had directed the clerk to engage a reporter.

Mr. CHRISTIE said he had certainly expected that the hon. Attorney-General would follow his usual course of leaving the argument in question, and entering upon personalities. He would tell the hon. gentleman, however, that his opinion as to his (Mr. C's) abilities did not affect him. He thought that he occupied his seat against the hon. gentleman's wishes, and against all the exertions which the hon. gentleman could bring against him. He was prepared to go back to his constituency, and return up on the same terms. Whatever his abilities might be, the seat which he occupied entitled him to respect. The constant attacks from the Treasury benches upon hon. members occupying seats on the Opposition side, spoke little for the Government. With regard to the remarks on the committee, the Attorney-General must have forgotten the numerous petitions which had been presented to the House, asking it to grant a committee to investigate the affairs of Upper Canada College. He only took up the question after considerable thought, and stated in the outset that if the charges were proved to be groundless, he should be rejoiced to see it. As to the uselessness of the committee, if it had been useless the interference of the Government was chiefly responsible for it. There was not a single position which the committee took which was not opposed by the Government.

Mr. CARNEGIE—Hear, hear.

Mr. CHRISTIE thought if his action on any question would place him in a good position with his constituency it would be on this question (Hear.) As to the charges having fallen to the ground, he thought it was a mistake, for he saw many articles in the public prints still calling attention to the subject; one of which he quoted from the Hamilton Spectator.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON denied that the Ministry had interfered in any way with the investigations of the committee. They were most anxious that a full investigation should take place. He was exceedingly favourable to the institution, and therefore desired the fullest enquiry, because he believed the institution would come out with honour and credit. His expectations had not been disappointed. He respected the institution for the good it had done, and believed that every man who had the interest of the Province at heart ought rather to aid and encourage than to endeavour to hinder an educational institution which was doing so good a work.

Mr. CHRISTIE said the evidence which was taken at the first session had only been distributed, although it had been printed.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON said that the Government were not responsible for this. The evidence thus printed was only partially taken, and it was not for the public interest to publish it.

Hon. Mr. McMURRICH said some good results had arisen from the investigation. He believed that the college stood higher in public estimation, but the old scores still remained. The question of employing a reporter was discussed in the committee, and he considered when he saw that gentleman at work he would be paid by the Government for his duties.

Mr. CARNEGIE read from the report of THE CLORE last session to the effect that the House gave a tacit consent to the employment of reporters.

Mr. CHRISTIE then withdrew the motion.

SULLIVAN CAVERNO.

Mr. BEATTY moved that the House go into Committee on the Bill to enable Sullivan Caverno to convey certain lands in the County of Welland.

Mr. BOYD moved the three months' notice.

After some remarks by Mr. Beatty and Mr. McMurrich, a division was taken with the following result:—

YEAS—Messrs. Barber, Blake, Boyd, Calvin, Christie, Clemens, Cook, Craig (Russell), Fitzsimmons, Graham (Hastings), Gray, Lyon, Macdonald, Montetoh, McCall (Barn), McKellar, McKim, McMurrich, Oliver, Faxon, Read, Richards, Williams (Durham).—24.

NAYS—Messrs. Anderson, Baxter, Beatty, Boulter, Cameron, Carling (London), Carling (Huron), Carlegie, Cockburn, Colquhoun, Corby, Coyne, Craig (Glengary), Currie, Evans, Fergusson, Foster, Gairbairn, Graham (York), Lander, Dunn, Macdonald, McDougall, McGill, Murray, Pardo, Perry, Rykert, Scott (Grey), Scott (Ottawa), Seord, Sexton, Smith (K-nt), Smith (Leeds and Grenville), Strange, Tett, Trow, Wallis, Wigle, Wilson, Wood.—11.

PRIVATE BILLS.

The following Bills were passed through Committee:—

Bill to amend the Act incorporating the Napanee River Improvement Company.—

Bill to incorporate the Glenwood Cemetery Company of the town of Histon.—Mr. Anderson.

Bill to incorporate the Pembroke and Ottawa Railway Company.—Mr. Murray.

On this Bill, a long discussion arose respecting the clause relating to the grouping principle, which was eventually passed.

Bill to incorporate the Brookville and Westport Railway Company.—Hon. Mr. Richards.

Bill to incorporate the Ganaroque and Rideau Railway Company.—Hon. Mr. Richards.

Bill to authorize the trustees of the Presbyterian Church in the township of Newcastle, in the County of Simcoe, in connection with the Church of Scotland, to sell the west half of lot number twenty-four, in the seventh concession of the said township.—Mr. Leunt.

Bill to incorporate the Merrickville and Westport Railway Company.—Mr. Smith (Leeds).

Bill to amend the Act incorporating the Hamilton and Lake Erie Railway Company.—Mr. Williams (Hamilton).

Bill to incorporate the Toronto Union Passenger Station and Dock Company.—Hon. Mr. Cameron.

Bill to establish and declare the mode in which the side lines of the lots in the township of Huntley, in the County of Carleton, have been and shall be run.—Mr. Lyon.

The bill regulating the sale of poisons.—Mr. McGill—was read a third time and passed.

PUBLIC FAIRS.

Mr. SCOTT (Grey) moved the second reading of the Bill to facilitate the establishment of public fairs, and provide for the regulation thereof. He explained that at the present time there was no law for the establishing of fairs in the rural districts, and this Bill provided that there should be such a law.

The Bill was read a second time and referred to a special committee.

CORRUPT PRACTICES AT MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

Mr. ANDERSON moved the second reading of the Bill to prevent corrupt practices at municipal elections. He explained that the intention was to extend the provisions of the Bill to prevent corrupt practices at Parliamentary elections to municipal elections. The penalties of the Parliamentary Bill were modified; the highest fine for corrupt practices at municipal elections was fifty dollars. There was no imprisonment, but disfranchisement for five years. The whole machinery of the Bill would come within the scope of the Division Court Judge.

The Bill was read a second time, and referred to a select committee.

APPOINTMENT OF JUDICIAL OFFICERS.

Mr. BLAKE moved the second reading of the Bill to provide for the appointment of judicial officers to whom estate bills may be referred.

The Bill was read a second time, and referred to be referred to committee of the whole House to-morrow.

On the motion of the Attorney-General, the House adjourned at five minutes to eleven.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

Mr. Boyd—Resolutions—(1) That the interests of those who avail themselves of the benefits offered by joint stock insurance companies, require that some provision be made, whereby in the event of the insolvency of such companies, insurers may to some extent be protected.

(2) That with a view of affording such protection, it is highly desirable that such companies make a cash deposit with the Provincial Treasurer, to be by him invested in Dominion or Provincial securities, and held in trust for such companies.

Mr. Scott (Grey)—Resolution—That in the opinion of this House, steps ought to be taken by the Ontario Government to acquire from the Dominion the Indian lands in this Province, with the view of securing to the settlers thereon equal benefits with the settlers on Crown lands.

Mr. Cumberland—On third reading of School Bill, that the following clause be added:

“That it shall be lawful for the Chief Superintendent to aid Mechanics' Institutes in the establishment and support of Public Libraries connected therewith, to the same extent as is authorized by law with respect to School Libraries.”

Mr. Rykert—On third reading, that clause 36 of said Bill be struck out, and insert the following:

“That one-half of the amount paid by the Government to the High School in any town or township within the jurisdiction of the county, together with such other sums as may be required for the support of such school, shall be provided by the Municipal Council of such city or town upon the

application of the High School Board, in the case of a High School in towns, incorporated villages or townships, one-half of the amount paid by the Government shall be paid by the Municipal Council of the county in which such High School is situated, upon the application of the High School Board; and such other sums as may be required for the maintenance of the said High School, shall be raised by the Council of the Municipality in which the High School is situated, upon the application of the High School Board.”

Mr. Carnegie—On the third reading that section 33 be amended by inserting the words “and to wash up, as the case may be;” which section shall be held on the second Wednesday in December in each year, and the first election on the second Wednesday in December after the passing of this Act” between the words “Villages” and “provided” in the fourth line of the said section, and that the word “and” between towns and villages in the same section