

SECOND PARLIAMENT—SECOND SESSION.

FRIDAY, Jan. 31.

The Speaker took the chair at 3 o'clock.

PETITIONS.

The following petitions were presented:—

Mr. Prince—Of Anthony Shiel and others, of Sandwich East, that no Act may pass to divide the said township; also Township Council of Sandwich East; also, of Leon St. Louis and others, to confirm a survey made by Frederick L. Forster, P.L.S. (two petitions).

Mr. Wells—Of Simcoe and Port Ryerse Tram or Railway and Harbour Company, to revise and amend their Act of Incorporation.

Also—Of E. W. Harris, of London, that the petition of the Simcoe and Port Ryerse Tram or Railway and Harbour Company may be referred to Standing Orders Committee.

Mr. Bethune—Of Township Council of Logan, and of Township Council of Elora, to unite the County of Perth for registration purposes.

Mr. Crooks—Of Warren Kennedy and others, of Toronto, that an Act may pass to authorize the City Council of Toronto to appoint an Assessment Commissioner.

Mr. Guest—Of Duncan Fraser and others, of St. Mary's, for an Act to incorporate the St. Mary's Credit Valley Railway Company.

Mr. Fitzsimmons—Of the Brockville and Westport Railway Company, to extend the time of commencement.

Also—Of J. D. Buell, of Brockville, that the petition of the Brockville and Westport Railway Company may be referred to the Committee on Standing Orders.

Mr. Ardagh—Of the Township Council of Muskoka, for amendments to the Registry Act.

Mr. Smith—Of the Township Council of Lobo, to establish a Normal School in London.

Mr. Monk—Of A. T. Bothwell and others, of Goulbourne, to establish a Normal School in Ottawa.

Mr. Farewell—Of William Heron and others, of Ashburnham, respecting the planting of trees.

Nineteen petitions were presented for the suppression of the liquor traffic by the following members:—Mr. Gifford, 1; Mr. Dawson, 1; Mr. Monteith, 6; Mr. Williams (Durham), 2; Mr. Fitzsimmons, 1; Mr. Clarke (Norfolk), 2; Mr. Caldwell, 2; Mr. McRae, 2; Mr. McCall, 1; Mr. Farewell, 1.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

Mr. RYKERT—To empower Thomas F. Ellis to sell certain lands.

Mr. FAREWELL—To incorporate the Father Matthew Temperance Association of Ontario.

Dr. CLARKE (Wellington)—To authorize the Law Society to admit Charles John Fuller as a barrister-at-law.

Mr. DEROCHE—To incorporate the Gatling Gold and Silver Mining Company.

Mr. HODGINS—To incorporate the Canada Congregational Missionary Society.

Mr. TOOLEY—To detach the Township of Delaware from the West Riding of Middlesex, and to attach it to the East Riding thereof.

Mr. MONTEITH—To amend the Act incorporating the Port Dover and Lake Huron Railway Company.

Mr. WILLIAMS (Durham)—To vest certain lands in the Trustees of the Congregation of the Church of Scotland, Port Hope.

Mr. BETHUNE—To amend the Cobourg Trust Act.

Mr. WELLS—To incorporate the Toronto Passenger General Railway Company.

Mr. McLEOD—For the relief of the heirs of the late David Rennie.

Mr. MONTEITH—To amend and consolidate the Acts respecting the Stratford and Erie Railway Company.

Mr. SMITH—To authorize the Cobourg, Peterboro, and Marmora Railway Company to extend their line.

Mr. McLEOD—To legalize certain By-laws passed by the village of Renfrew.

Mr. WOOD (Victoria)—To incorporate the Brothers' Christian School.

Mr. WELLS—To declare the intention of the Act respecting the division of the Goodhue estate.

Mr. SMITH—To amend the Act respecting the diversion of the River Aux Sables.

Mr. SCOTT—To amend the Act respecting the construction of water-works in the city of Ottawa.

Also—To incorporate the Temporal Committee of Knox's Church, Ottawa.

Attorney-General MOWAT—To amend the Election Trials Acts.

Also—For the better administration of justice in the Courts of Ontario.

Also—To make further provision as to the custody of insane persons.

Also—Respecting the appointment of Queen's Counsel.

Also—To regulate the precedence at the Bar of Ontario.

RETURNS.

Hon. Mr. PARDEE presented all the correspondence between the Government and the Canada Car Company, and copy of the contract entered into.

Also—The reports of the Inspector of Division Court offices.

Also—Return of all sums paid by the Treasurer to the Railways as bonuses within the last twelve months, specifying the railways, the amounts paid, and the dates of such payments.

Also—Copies of all correspondence and orders respecting the Law Commission.

MUNICIPAL LOAN FUND.

Mr. LAUDER said that before the orders of the day were called, the House would like to know from the leader of the Government when he proposed to bring down his scheme for the settlement of the Municipal Loan Fund question. He had promised last week that he would bring it down this week. This was the last day of the week, and yet no word had been heard of it. Unless hon. members had the matter before them soon, the session must last until March, or the outer municipalities would have no opportunity of expressing any opinion in the matter.

Attorney-General MOWAT replied that what he had said was, that he hoped to be able to bring in this week the various measures which the Government intended to introduce, and that he had done his best to accomplish this object. Deputations, however, were constantly waiting upon him, urging the claims of important sections of the country. He was daily receiving additional information, so that he found it impossible to bring down his scheme as early as he had wished. He would give notice to-day of the introduction of his resolutions on Tuesday next, and he hoped to be then in a position to make a full statement to the House of the policy of the Government and the reasons on which it was based. (Hear, hear.) The House would have plenty of opportunity of considering the matter before it disposed of it.

DRAINAGE RESOLUTIONS.

Hon. Mr. McKELLAR moved the adoption of the report of the Committee of the Whole on the resolution authorising the purchase of municipal debentures issued for drainage purposes.

Mr. MACDONALD moved that the words "at any one time" be inserted in the said resolution. As he understood the resolution, it gave the Government power to re-invest these monies as they came in, provided they had not more than \$200,000 in circulation at any one time. The object of his amendment was to provide that as the money came back to the Government it should go to the consolidated revenue fund, and should not be again invested without the order of the House.

Hon. Mr. McKELLAR said this was only a re-enactment of the Act of last session, and no objection was taken to this provision then. The investment was limited to \$200,000, and not more than \$20,000 could be granted to any one township. They would have the very best security for this investment. They had not only the security of the lands drained, but the security of the whole township, those who had no lands to drain becoming endorsers for the others. Therefore this money, as it returned to Government, could be re-invested with perfect security. He thought it was very likely that in a year or two the Government would have to ask for more money for drainage purposes. The townships were beginning to see the advantages of the offer of the Government, and they should give them every opportunity of getting money in that way so long as the security was perfectly good. It had been stated that this would create another municipal loan fund. That was utterly impossible. If the same protection had been secured in the