

of, Cutts, Creighton, Currie, Deacon, Flesher, Gibson, Kean, Lauder, McRae, Merrick, O'Donoghue, Paxton, Preston, Richardson, Roblison, Rosevear, Tooley—Total 25.

**NAYS.**—Appley, Ballantyne, Baxter, Bethune, Bishop, Cameron Clarke (Norfolk), Clarke (Wellington), Cole, Crooks, Deroche, Ferris, Finlayson, Fleming, Fraser, Graham (Tamton), Grange, Grant, Harbin, Hoagins, Lane, Lyon, McCraney, McDougall (Middlesex), Meredith, Mostyn, Mowat, Pardee, Patterson (Fess), Sexon, Sinclair, Springer Striker, Watterworth, Widdfield, Williams, Wilson, Wood—Total, 59.

On clause 63, providing that in the event of the Commissioners of Estate Bills reporting that in their opinion it is not reasonable that the Bill submitted should pass into law, but that such shall not be further considered,

Mr. HODGINS thought that this provision was objectionable, being inconsistent with the legislative prerogatives of this House, and different from the practice in the Mother Country. He moved that clause 63 be struck out.

The amendment was lost on division.

On clause 79,

Mr. CAMERON said he thought it would be unjust to impose on any gentleman the duty of a permanent chairman without making him some compensation.

Mr. MOWAT said that would be a matter for further consideration, but the appointment would save the expense of another clerk.

Mr. MACDOUGALL (Simcoe) said he saw considerable advantage in the proposal, but he thought no member could be asked to take the office without compensation.

Mr. MEREDITH said no provision was made for the absence of the permanent chairman.

Mr. MOWAT said the rule left the matter in the same position as before if the permanent chairman was absent.

The rule carried.

The remaining rules were then adopted.

Mr. MOWAT moved, "That these rules shall come into operation from and after the last of this session." Carried.

#### RETURNS.

Mr. Wood presented a return relating to the Railway Subsidy Fund.

#### THE DEBATE ON THE LICENSE LAW.

Mr. CLARKE (Norfolk) said he had misunderstood the remarks of the member for South Simcoe last evening, and desired to withdraw his observations.

It being six o'clock, the Speaker left the chair.

After recess,

#### SUPPLY.

The House went into Committee of Supply.

The following items were passed:—

Crown Lands Department.....	\$50,560
Miscellaneous—Civil Government—	
Inspector of Registry Offices (including travelling expenses).....	2,000
Inspector of Division Courts.....	1,400
do. Travelling Expenses.....	650

On the item of \$85,800 for Colonization Roads,

Mr. DEACON expressed his disapproval of the system of making annual grants for colonization roads, and urged that they should be constructed by the Government as public works. He complained that money was wasted in paying the expenses of carrying men from the cities to the location of the works, instead of engaging men in the district. If the roads were not taken over as public works, they should be let out by contract at a certain price per mile for construction.

Mr. PARDEE admitted that the colonization road question was a very difficult one, and he was in favour of throwing the burden connected with their construction and maintenance on the municipalities as soon as possible. The system had been placed under the Public Works Department of the Sandfield Macdonald Government but was not found to work satisfactorily. All roads were given out by contract where possible, and wherever superintendents could hire men in the vicinity such was done, the best men being engaged as superintendents. Although the amount voted for estimates appeared large, the expenditure covered bridges and other extensive works.

Mr. McRAE thought that a considerable sum of money was wasted in purchasing plant, which after a short time proved useless. If the circumstances connected with the construction of roads in the Muskoka district were investigated, it would be found that in some cases one half of the grant went into the pockets of the superintendents.

Mr. MERRICK asked for explanations in regard to the sum of \$20,000 taken for short new roads and repairs.

Mr. PARDEE replied that full particulars

of the expenditure would be given in the annual report of the Department. A considerable sum would be expended on the Lake Rousseau road, over which supplies for the construction of the new Pacific Junction Railway would be carried, the amount of \$6,000 being considered sufficient to place it in good repair.

Mr. MEREDITH asked on what basis the estimates were founded.

Mr. PARDEE replied that they were based on written and verbal information obtained by the officers of the Department.

Mr. DEROCHE thought that no money was expended with greater advantage to the Province than that spent on colonization roads, which were the only channels of communication from the back country to the front. He only regretted that the grant was not larger, because the largest portion of the revenue was derived from the section of country where the colonization roads were built. He dissented from the opinion expressed by the hon. member for North Renfrew that the works should be let out by contract, for it was the interest of the localities to have the money judiciously expended.

Mr. BOULTER said he had to defend the Commissioner of Crown Lands from charges made against him in reference to the expenditure on colonization roads.

Mr. McRAE thought that in all cases when the Government could give the money out in contract it should be done.

Mr. WOOD said that in the case referred to by the hon. member for North Victoria the man who had expended the Government money had been the choice of the County Council.

Mr. LAUDER approved of the suggestion that the money should be placed in the hands of the municipalities. He didn't suppose the Government wished to use the money for corrupt purposes, but he thought the course suggested was altogether the best one. The public accounts showed that there were no expenditures on any of the roads which agreed with the amounts asked.

Mr. PARDEE said the suggestion that the municipalities should spend the money would not commend itself to those members who had had any practical experience in the matter. Municipal Councils could expend their own funds very well, but he did not think they were the best parties to expend Government money. If that plan were adopted, and it was found that the money was not judiciously expended, the hon. member for East Grey would be the first to complain. The Government would thus be getting rid of all responsibility in the matter. He ventured to say that if the municipal bodies had the expenditure of the money in their hands there would be five hundred times more "log-rolling" than there ever had been. Mr. Richards had tried this method, but had been obliged to abandon it. With regard to the money already expended, the reports which came to him, without exception, agreed in saying that the money had been spent to the very best advantage. Rumours were continually floating around about political advantages, but they generally turned out on close investigation to be without truth. The only question he considered in appointing overseers was their efficiency, regardless of politics.

Mr. DEROCHE strongly disapproved of placing the expenditure in the hands of the municipalities, as there would then be tentimes more lobbying than there now was. He could vouch that from his experience the only consideration upon which the Crown Lands Commissioner appointed men to expend the money was their efficiency.

Mr. MERRICK said that though the Crown Lands Commissioner might intend to act in a straightforward manner, there was a possibility that the partizanship of supporters of the Government might mislead him as to the expenditure of this large amount of money. He thought the House should be in possession of all details as to the kind of roads to be built, and the manner in which the money was to be expended.

Mr. DAWSON said that, at least so far as his district was concerned, the expenditure of the money by the municipalities was impracticable. He believed the money was being well expended. He had had a great deal of experience in road-making, and he could assure the House that it was really impossible to build a good wagon road for less than \$1,000 per mile. He believed that the money had been very wisely expended in Muskoka, and he hoped it would be equally well spent in Algoma.

Mr. McRAE thought the Township Councils should expend the money on the short roads at least; and they could be inspected by the Government Inspector.

Mr. DEACON said he was entirely in