

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

THIRD PARLIAMENT—SECOND SESSION.

THURSDAY, March 1.

FIRST SITTING.

The Speaker took the chair at 3 o'clock.

THE MEMBER FOR MONCK.

Mr. CURRIE moved "That the Accountant of the House transmit to Mr. H. R. Haney, the member for Monck, the amount of his sessional allowance and mileage without deducting therefrom any portion thereof, on account of his absence from this Chamber caused by illness." Carried.

SUPPLY BILL.

Mr. CROOKS moved the third reading of the Supply Bill. Carried.

TERRITORIAL DISTRICTS OF THE PROVINCE.

Mr. MOWAT moved the third reading of the Bill respecting the territorial temporary districts of the Province, and the provisional county of Haliburton. Carried.

CONSOLIDATION OF THE STATUTES.

Mr. MOWAT, in moving the House into Committee on the Bill respecting the recorded statutes of Ontario, the Bill respecting the statutes as consolidated, and on the Bill to provide for certain amendments in the law, pointed out the importance of having in every free country a consolidation of the statutes at least every ten years. He referred to the manner in which the present consolidation had been conducted, and expressed his sense of the ability displayed by the honorary Commissioners in the supervision of the work as well as by the young lawyers to whom had been entrusted the greater part of the labours of the consolidation.

The House then went into Committee on the Bills. Several amendments were made, and the Committee rose and reported. The amendments were concurred in.

On the motion for the third reading,

Mr. CREIGHTON moved "That Bill 112 be recommitted, with instructions to amend by inserting a clause providing that no house owned by a License Commissioner or Inspector shall be granted a liquor license, and that no License Commissioner or Inspector can hold a liquor license." He stated as an instance of the necessity of this clause that Messrs. McIntyre and Marks, License Commissioners in the District of Thunder Bay, were both interested in the liquor traffic; that the latter gentleman was a hotel-keeper and the former an agent of the Hudson's Bay Company.

Mr. DAVISON stated that Mr. McIntyre was opposed to the liquor traffic; as agent of the Hudson's Bay Company he might have had some supervision over the stores. Mr. Marks was not a hotel-keeper, although he might be the owner of a house that was used as a hotel by the lessee.

Mr. CROOKS said it was evident that the motion was not made with the idea of assisting the Government in controlling and regulating the liquor traffic, but with the view of introducing an expression of opinion that might be used for purposes of electioneering discussion. The motion should have been pressed on the consideration of the License Bill. The Government always endeavoured not to appoint as Commissioners those interested in the liquor traffic.

Mr. FRASER pointed out that the resolution would reach persons who were part owners of property, and might inflict grave injury.

Mr. CAMERON said that the admission of the Treasurer that the Government adopted the principle of the amendment was a reason why it should be passed.

Mr. CLARKE (Norfolk) considered that the motion was introduced not to help the temperance people, but was merely a piece of clap trap. If he had thought that the Government had not adopted the principle involved he would have moved the amendment himself.

Mr. MACDOUGALL (Simcoe) said that the clause proposed was much needed. Cases had fallen under his own observation in the country where taverns owned by License Commissioners had been granted licenses, while other houses had been refused.

Mr. MCGOWAN said that in his constituency the license inspector had owned tavern property, and he saw by the list of new appointments that the evil had not been remedied.

Mr. MOWAT moved the adjournment of the debate. Carried.

The House adjourned at six o'clock p.m.

SECOND SITTING.

The Speaker took the chair at half past seven.

THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE.

Mr. MOWAT said he hoped they would be able to get through to-night, but lest they should not, he moved "That there shall be, on Friday next, three separate sittings of this House, the first sitting to be from 11 a.m. till 1:30 p.m.; the other two sittings as already ordered." Carried.

PRIVILEGE.

Mr. WIGLE rose to deny a statement made by an evening newspaper in this city to the effect that he had come to an agreement with Dr. Widdifield in reference to the Bill of the latter passed through the House. He had never spoken to Dr. Widdifield on the subject.

Mr. CAMERON corrected an error in the *Mails* report of his remarks in reference to the Central Prison. He had been represented as charging Dr. Aikens with neglect in reference to the prisoner McKilvey. What he had said was that the doctor's duty required him to be at the prison before 9 o'clock, and that if he was not there at that hour he was neglecting his duty. With reference to what had just been said by the hon. member for Essex, he (Mr. Cameron) would just say that by the kind consideration of his friends they had thought it more desirable for the present that he should retain his position as their leader, and in deference to their wishes he should do so, though he thought there was occasion for the course he had taken last night. (Cheers.)

CONSOLIDATION OF THE STATUTES.

The debate on Mr. Creighton's amendment to the motion for the third reading of the Bill respecting the consolidation of the statutes was resumed.

Mr. MEREDITH moved an amendment to the amendment, which was nearly inaudible in the gallery, but was understood to be to the effect that after the first of July next no license should issue for the benefit of any person who was a License Inspector, and any such license should be void; also, that after the above date no license should be granted for premises owned by the Inspector or the Commissioners, and any inspector recommending, or commissioners granting, such a license should be liable to a penalty of \$500. This provision not to apply to the case of joint stock companies, but after the 1st of July next no commissioner who was also a shareholder in such property should vote upon the granting of a license upon such property.

The amendment to the amendment was carried.

An amendment offered by Mr. Macdougall (Simcoe), to the effect that barristers' fees should be recoverable similarly to those of attorneys', was lost on division.

The Bill was then read a third time and passed.

DISTRICT OF NIPISSING.

The Bill to apply the Municipal Law to certain townships in the district of Nipissing passed through Committee, was read a third time, and passed.

THE ELECTION LAW.

The House then went into Committee on the Bill to amend the Acts relating to the election of members of the Assembly.

Mr. CAMERON moved the following amendment after clause 4:—"Section 9 of the said Act is hereby amended by striking out the following words at the end of said section: 'And other questions of qualification should be raised and decided on election petitions only,' and substituting the following: 'And no question as to the qualification or right to vote of any person named on such voters' lists certified and delivered as aforesaid shall be raised on any election petition or on the trial of any controverted election.'"

Mr. HODGINS thought that it would be unwise to make the voters' lists final in regard to voters who might be objected to on the ground of legal incapacity.

Mr. SCOTT (Peterboro') said that the amendment of the hon. member for East Toronto would place the voters' lists for Ontario on the same footing as that for the Dominion elections.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. MEREDITH proposed the insertion of a clause to the effect that the right to vote on income should not depend upon the payment of municipal taxes unless the municipality passed a by-law to that effect at least