

NOTICES OF MOTION.

Mr. Currie—On Tuesday—Resolution—That in the opinion of this House all moneys granted by the Legislature for High Schools should be apportioned between counties and cities according to the ratio of population in each, as compared with the whole population of the Province; also, Bill respecting commissioners for taking affidavits and affirmations.

Mr. Parkhill—On Tuesday—Order of the House for a return showing the number of tavern and shop licenses issued in each of the several municipalities of the county of Simcoe, including the townships of Tecumseh, Adjala, Mono, and Mulmur detached therefrom for electoral purposes; also the amounts received by the several Boards of License Commissioners of the counties of Simcoe, Dufferin, and Cardwell, and the amounts of money that have been paid over to the several municipalities in the said counties out of the license fund in each and every year since 1874.

Mr. Bell—Enquiry of Ministry—Whether it is the intention of the Government to introduce, during the present session, any measure having in view the erection of new Parliament Buildings for the use of this Province, and if so, whether any sum will be inserted in the Estimates for the present year for that purpose.

Mr. Wood—On Monday—Bill to establish an Industrial Refuge for Girls.

Mr. Wills—On Tuesday—Bill to amend the Assessment Act; also Bill to amend the Municipal Act.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE.

Toronto, Jan. 31.

This Committee met this morning at 11 o'clock, Mr. Clarke (Wellington) in the chair. There were also present Messrs. Hardy, Meredith, Harcourt, Striker, Gibson, Wills, Ferris, Ballantyne, Deacon, and Wood.

Accounts amounting to \$747 75, of contingencies for the office of Captain W. Forsyth Grant, were laid upon the table.

Mr. MEREDITH asked if it was customary to pay these accounts in a lump sum, without requiring details.

Mr. HARRIS, of the Treasury Department, replied in the affirmative. He also stated that that had been the practice for the past two years, and that it had formerly been the rule to pay according to details furnished to each Department.

Mr. MEREDITH considered this to be a very unsatisfactory practice. He should like to know the reason for the change. He asked if all the money requested was granted, whether it was required or not.

Mr. HARRIS said the whole amount asked for was granted.

Mr. HARDY supposed the Lieut.-Governor expended the money judiciously.

Mr. MEREDITH said it was the people's money.

Mr. WILLS read from the Accounts for 1874 to show that the details were then given. He said the Lieut.-Governor now had two secretaries, where one was formerly sufficient.

Mr. HARDY remarked that the work of the Lieut.-Governor in signing patents, &c., had greatly increased.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that in 1871, in Sandfield Macdonald's time, the contingencies were given in a lump sum, without details.

Mr. HARDY said there were many little things connected with the expenditure about Government House, such as the expenses of balls, etc., of which they should not require the details too strictly.

Mr. MEREDITH said Mr. Grant was an officer of the Government, and his expenditures should be as strictly scrutinized as those of any one else.

Several members expressed the opinion that the details should be given.

Mr. HARDY suggested that if the details were wanted the Committee might pass a resolution to that effect.

The Treasurer, Mr. Wood, here entered the room, and, in reply to Mr. Meredith, said the decision of the Government in making the change in the system was that, so far as the Lieut.-Governor was concern-