

where it could do most good.

Mr. DRYDEN said he had come to the conclusion that they had too many of these township shows. In his section of the country the feeling among the farmers was to do away with them. He did not wish to blot out the County shows, but to weed out the weaker ones, and by those means strengthen the stronger ones. He was sure this was the view of most agriculturists.

Mr. YOUNG was sorry to speak again, but gentlemen in speaking on this question had shown little knowledge of the subject. Objection had been taken to the tax of 5 per cent. for the Provincial Association. The fact was they did not give it, and never owned it. Government withheld that amount for the support of the Provincial Association. And as to the five per cent., every one of the Institutes could get it all back by establishing evening classes. It had been said that the larger places, such as cities and towns, received most of this grant for evening classes. The fact was the smaller villages were in advance of the larger ones in establishing evening classes. Instead of complaining, the hon. gentlemen should use their surplus energy in trying to infuse a little life in their Institutes. It had been said that Dr. May had condemned the Provincial Association as useless. He did not believe that Dr. May would dare come forward and substantiate that statement; and furthermore, Dr. May was not an authority which the House could accept, as it was feared by the Institutes he had visited, who knew that the breaking up of the Educational Depository had deprived him of a situation, that he was trying to get himself appointed Government Inspector of Mechanics' Institutes. The hon. member for Muskoka wanted to know if the delegates had not asked at the last annual meeting that the tax of five per cent. be remitted them. If they wanted this, all they had to do was to ask for it, as they themselves composed the Association. Other societies had their Provincial Associations, and why should not the Mechanics' Institutes?

Mr. GIBSON thought it was right to have a Provincial Institute, but he thought that the various institutes would prefer to have the spending of the surplus money of the Provincial Association themselves. (Hear, hear.) Regarding the agricultural societies, he entirely agreed with the member for Perth (Mr. Hay.) The standard of membership might at least be doubled. As it was, there was something like a family compact among these electoral societies.

Mr. HAY, in reply to some members, repeated the reasons for the ground he took with reference to agricultural societies. He denied that any feeling of antagonism existed among agriculturists towards large fairs in the villages and towns. A society that could not maintain a membership of 400 was not entitled to consideration. He did not say they should jump to that larger number, but there should be a gradual tendency in the direction indicated.

The item passed.

On the item of \$50,273 75, miscellaneous expenditure.

Mr. MILLER objected to the payment of insurance premiums. He would be prepared to vote a million dollars for adequate Parliament buildings and save the difference between that sum and the amount appropriated.

Mr. CALVIN said that his firm would have had to face bankruptcy twice if they had insured.

Mr. MEREDITH enquired as to an item of \$175 paid to Mr. Hodgins regarding the North-West Boundary for revising the argument. The Government had got \$10,000 with which to press the rights of the Province, but had not yet done anything.

Mr. MOWAT said that he was glad his hon. friend was so anxious to have the matter settled. He had not desired to abandon their ground on the award and bring the matter before the Privy Council. He was not desirous to take that step unless they were forced to do so to maintain the rights of the Province. Mr. Hodgins, when a member of the House, had assisted in the preparation of the argument, and it was thought desirable to have a revised copy of the argument, and as Mr. Hodgins was no longer a member of the House when the revision took place he could not be expected to work for nothing.

Mr. McLAUGHLIN said that copies of the evidence taken before the Agricultural Commission should be distributed throughout the country.

Mr. WOOD said it was the intention to distribute the said evidence as wide y as possible.

The item passed.

On the item of \$1,000 for repairs on Parliament Buildings.

Mr. MERRICK said that there had been a large representative gathering held there during the year, and he would ask what was the policy of the Government in regard to it.

Mr. FRASER said when application was made by the Oddfellows it was based upon the grounds that their gathering would be so large that there was no other hall in the city that would afford the necessary accommodation. In view of the fact that the gathering was composed of many notable persons from the United States, they had decided to allow them to hold their gathering in the Parliament Buildings. However, as this might in future lead to serious complications, the Government had decided that hereafter the Parliament Buildings should not be used for any other purpose than for the meeting of the Legislature.

Mr. MEREDITH said that under the circumstances he did not think the Government should be censured.

The item passed.

On the item of \$32,650, Public Works.

Mr. FRASER said it was proposed to shorten the navigation of Seagog Lake by three miles, and for that purpose they had to dredge it.

The item passed.

On the item of \$96,500, Colonization Roads.

Mr. LAUDER enquired what steps were taken to enquire into the necessity of a Colonization Road before money was granted for their construction.

Mr. PARDEE said that no grant for a road was placed upon the estimates until the Government was thoroughly satisfied that the road was needed. First they had petitions. They carried a certain weight, but not sufficient to obtain a grant. The inspectors were sent to investigate the matter, and the Superintendent accompanied them, and it was only after the most thorough investigation and the necessity and utility of the road clearly demonstrated that it was placed upon the esti-

mate.

Mr. LAUDER said the whole system of building colonization roads was wrong, and that the money was used for corrupt purposes.

Mr. PARDEE said that it was impossible to satisfy the member for Grey. He stated that money was injudiciously and corruptly spent on colonization roads, yet he failed to show where one dollar had been so spent. He objected to the manner in which the work was carried on, yet he failed to suggest any other plan by which the work should be done. He would defy him to point to one dollar that had been spent for purposes of corruption, and before he talked about corruption he should be prepared to substantiate his statements.

Mr. LAUDER said that the building of these roads was sold to the friends of the Government, without contract, and for political purposes. He had learned this in Committee, and it was impossible to tell how the money was spent.

Mr. MILLER said the talk of the member for Grey, about corruption, was worth just the amount of time he required to make the statement. It was one thing to howl about corruption but quite another to prove its existence. He knew that every dollar spent on colonization roads in his constituency was well spent.

Mr. LYON said he believed the money spent on colonization roads was economically spent, and nothing had done so much to settle those districts as those very roads. In his constituency these roads had done great good, and as for the charge of corruption it was mere talk.

Mr. DEROCHÉ said that the system by which colonization roads were built was inaugurated by the Government of Jean Sandfield Macdonald, and if there was anything wrong in it, the gentlemen on the opposite side of the House were responsible. The member for Grey would have the money placed in the hands of the Municipal Council. He talked about corruption, yet if he wanted to inaugurate a regular system of corruption he could not have hit upon a better plan. The great good done by these roads could not be overestimated.

Mr. MURRAY said a certain amount of money had been spent in his constituency in opening up colonization roads, and he was satisfied that the money had been judiciously expended. Over 1,500 people had been brought into his Riding by these means, and if he complained of anything it would be that the Government had not expended more money in this way.

Mr. LEES said he did not object to the manner in which the money was spent, but thought it should be more equally distributed.

Mr. BLEZARD bore testimony to the excellent return given for the money expended in his neighbourhood on colonization roads.

The item was passed.

The Committee rose, and the House adjourned at 11:35.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

Mr. Long—On Thursday next—Order of the House for a return in regard to hotel and shop licenses showing the amount of money received for such licenses in the counties of Cardwell, Dufferin, Grey, Simcoe, and York, showing the amount paid to inspectors and other working expenses, the amount paid to municipalities, and amount paid to the Provincial Treasury since the operation of the Crook's Act.

Mr. Merrick—On Tuesday next—That the seventh report of the Standing Committee on Private Bills be referred back to the Committee with instructions to declare the preamble of Bill (No. 5) to incorporate the Orange associations of Ontario, east and west, as proven.

The Attorney-General—On Thursday—Bill for the incorporation by letters patent and the regulation of timber slide companies; also Bill authorizing the issue of supplementary letters patent to joint stock companies.

Mr. Deroché—On Thursday next—Order of the House for a return of all correspondence between the Council of University College and any female applicant for permission to attend lectures in that institution; such return to show also the standing of such applicant in the University of Toronto.

Mr. Harcourt—On Thursday next—Order of the House for a copy of the annual account of the bursars of the University and colleges at Toronto, required by section 6, chapter 211.