

withdrawal of the grant than the giving of it now did. He did not agree with all that had been said by the mover and seconder of the resolution. One had somewhat ridiculed the study of classics, and the other had been equally severe upon the subject of mathematics. He would like to know what a grammar school curriculum would be without classics and mathematics. He would call the attention of the House to the fact that the High School course overlapped the University course by at least one form, and he did not see why the first form in the University might not be gone through with at the Collegiate Institutes and High Schools. He would be in favour of giving them this power. He was quite willing to adopt any course that would lead to a more equitable distribution of the grant, but he would most certainly oppose the total withdrawal.

Mr. MORRIS said he quite concurred in the view of the member for Hamilton, that it would be wrong to do anything that would tend to impair the usefulness of the Collegiate Institutes. The mover of the resolution had stated that the tendency of this grant was to centralize the greater part of it in the larger cities. This, he thought, was not the case, and that the Institutes in the country towns profited equally with those in the cities. He thought the matter should receive the most earnest consideration of the Government, as it was a very important one.

Mr. ROSS said the statements made by the Minister of Education, that he intended to withdraw the grant as soon as possible, precluded further discussion. He did not in his resolution intend to have anything done that would militate against the usefulness of any of our educational institutions, and as the Government intended to move in the matter he had nothing further to ask.

The motion was then withdrawn.

PRINTING OF STATUTES.

Mr. CREIGHTON moved "That it be an instruction to the Printing Committee to enquire and report whether means cannot be devised for having the statutes printed and distributed, after the close of each session, with greater expedition than at present."

Mr. FRASEK said the Government were inquiring into the matter and would make distribution at as early a date as possible.

The motion was then withdrawn.

TOLL GATES.

Mr. NAIRN moved for an order of the House for a return showing the number of roads on which tolls are collected in each county in the Province, the names of the municipal corporations, joint-stock companies, or individuals owning such roads, the date of construction, the capital invested by present owners in construction or purchase, the length of roads, rate per mile charged as tolls, and the gross and net revenues during the years 1878, 1879, and 1880, also the rate of dividends paid to the owners during those years. A great deal of injustice was being done by these tolls, and he thought the House could pass such legislation as would be acceptable both to the companies or corporations owning the road, and also to the people.

The motion carried.

PUBLIC BILLS AND ORDERS.

Mr. ROBERTSON moved the second reading of a Bill to further amend the Division Courts Act.

Mr. MOWAT said the Bill was of such a character that it would be impossible for the House to deal with it.

The motion was lost.

MUNICIPAL DEBENTURES.

Mr. GIBSON (Hamilton) moved the second reading of a Bill respecting municipal debentures. He explained that the object of the Bill was to give increased permanency and standing to municipal debentures. It provided that when no proceedings had been instituted against a by-law authorizing an issue of debentures within two years, the debentures should be considered valid. It was not proposed that the provision of this Bill should extend to any by-laws except such as had been voted upon by the ratepayers. He thought that the law as it at present stood should be amended. There would be no expense incurred by the Bill he proposed, and he thought it should receive the support of the Government.

Mr. MOWAT said the principle of the Bill was quite correct, but that there might be some difference of opinion as to its provisions for carrying these principles into effect.

Mr. MEREDITH said he thought it would be better for the Government to consider the matter during recess and bring down a Bill next session dealing with the matter. It was a matter of considerable importance and one that should not be hastily dealt with.

Mr. GIBSON said the Bill had not been hurriedly drawn up, and he did not see any reason for delay.

Mr. ROSS said there was no doubt the principle of the Bill was desirable, but he approved of the suggestion of the hon. member for London that the Government deal with the matter next session.

Mr. GIBSON said that if anything objectionable were found in the Bill while in Committee, he would have no objection to withdrawing it then, but he thought it might go to the Committee.

The Bill was read a second time, and referred to the Municipal Committee.

REPORT OF AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION.

Mr. HARDY presented the report of the Agricultural Commission.

Also the Immigration report.

Also a return relative to the minutes of the Senate of the University of Toronto.

At six o'clock the Speaker left the chair.

AFTER RECESS.

DRAINAGE ACT.

The Bill to amend the Ontario Drainage Act was advanced a stage in Committee.

ILLICIT SALE OF LIQUOR.

The House again went into Committee to consider the Bill to give increased efficiency to the laws against the sale of intoxicating liquor.

Mr. GIBSON said that he had a clause he would like inserted in the Bill, viz., one making the purchaser, as well as the seller, liable under the Act, when such purchase is made within the prohibited hours. He did not believe in exempting the purchaser, who was as responsible as the seller for the illegal sale, while they subjected the dealer to a severe penalty. He had no doubt if a penalty was imposed on the purchaser that it would go a long way to stop the illegal traffic in liquor. He did not believe that any considerable number of persons who now purchased liquor after hours would, if the clause he proposed were passed, be found violating the law.

Mr. MOWAT believed that such a clause would not conduce to the cause of temperance. They now made the occupant and the seller liable, and if they made the purchaser liable also, how could they secure a conviction if even the purchaser was subjected to penalties? The proposal was a good one in theory, but he believed not practicable.

Mr. GIBSON said if they could only enforce the law by sending informers to secure a conviction, then they should make the penalties severe enough to have a deterrent effect. He still believed that great advantage would be obtained by the insertion of the clause. It would, perhaps, interfere with the individuals who went around violating the law in order that it might be enforced, but if that was the only way of enforcing an observance of the law it was a sad state of things.

Mr. FRASER thought the hon. member for Hamilton was inconsistent. As the experience was that under the strict law in cities people would not make complaints; so if the law was much more stringent how many less complaints would be made? He would ask, also, how many complaints would be made unless by the agency of a special officer or detective? and how many informations were made outside of the detective agency? He would recommend to temperance men, instead of making the law more stringent, to deal with the question of "treating," and the result would be a large gain to the cause of temperance.

Mr. MEREDITH said he did not think anything was to be gained by unnecessary severity towards the hotel-keepers; but he thought that if the amendment of the hon. member for Hamilton was made a part of the law it would tend to do much good. The law punished the burglar, and it also punished the receiver of the stolen goods, and he thought the same measure should be used towards those who drank liquor in contravention of the law. He believed the amendment would meet with the approbation of the hotel-keepers themselves, and Parliament should assist those people in trying to observe the law.

The amendment was lost on a division by a majority of 11.

The blank in clause 20 was filled, limiting the strength of wine to 15 per cent. of alcohol.

Clause 23 was struck out, and another substituted.

The Committee rose and reported progress, asking leave to sit again.

PUBLIC BILLS.

The following Bills were reported in Committee:—

To amend the Act respecting the inspection of asylums, hospitals, common gaols, and reformatories.

To amend the Act for the protection of birds