

school sections in the Province in which the Government grant has been withheld since 1880.

Also a return showing the name of each colonization road on which Provincial money has been expended since July 1st, 1867, its length in miles, the constituency or constituencies in which it is situated, the amount expended upon it in each year, distinguishing between amounts for roadways, the amounts for construction of new road cutting and length of road constructed.

THE LICENSE QUESTION.

Hon. O. MOWAT, in reply to Mr. Craighton, said as long as the decision of the Supreme Court with respect to the license question stands unreversed it is the intention of the Government to acquiesce in it by abstaining from issuing wholesale and vessel licenses, provided, of course, that the Dominion Government acquiesce in it; and it is too monstrous to think of their not acquiescing in a decision of the Supreme Court when they had sought it themselves.

PUBLIC LAND SALES.

Mr. CARNEGIE moved for a return showing the several lots in Haliburton and Peterboro' which have been sold, located, &c., since January, 1880.

Hon. T. B. PARDEE—I desire to call the attention of the hon. member and the House to the nature of the motion. It is a motion involving a great amount of labour without being of any, or at least commensurate service to the House or the country. If the hon. member wants to get any particular information, I say he is obliged and bound to give reasons why he wants to get the information. He asks for information with respect to 11 townships in Haliburton and Peterboro' which have been sold, located, disposed of, or applied for, since the first day of January, 1880; also, the dates of said sales, the persons to whom sold, the prices paid, and terms of payments; also the dates of the several applications for the purchase, location, and terms of location of said lots. Now, sir, I find upon inquiry that this would involve a great amount of labour which I cannot conceive would be of any sort of use to the House. It is not my desire, neither is it the desire of the Government, to withhold any information from this House, but hon. gentlemen must see that their motions should be confined to what is reasonable and what is serviceable to the House and the country. Now if he will say any particular number of lots, or any concession, some particular sales or applications or transactions with respect to which he wants to get information, that information will be furnished. I will not say that the Government will refuse to furnish the information called for by this motion, but it is an unreasonable motion to accede to without making out a case for it. The hon. member insinuates that the return brought down last session was incomplete, but I am quite satisfied it gave everything that was asked for. I decline to receive that as a reason why the motion should pass. It is clearly laid down by Bourinot upon this question that a party must give reasons for his motion. He says:—

All the departments of the public service are kept most laboriously employed every session in furnishing information required by members of the two houses. The expense entailed in this is so unreasonably large. The right of the members to obtain every information from the Government within the limits previously described is so unqualified that it seems almost beyond the power of a Minister to keep the practice within narrower bounds, and thereby save much public money. It is quite obvious, however, that no member should move for papers except on sufficient grounds. It is clearly laid down by the most eminent of English Parliamentarians that it is incumbent upon the mover to state the reasons upon which his motion is founded, and the expediency of calling for the papers which are the subject of that motion.

There is no desire to withhold information. The Government has allowed motions to pass which have involved a great amount of labour upon the Department. One of the returns brought down to-day has involved a great amount of labour and expense, it having been in preparation for months. The hon. gentleman asks that it may be brought down in time to be of service this session, and I can only say that if it is granted it will be brought down at the earliest opportunity, but as it involves reference to hundreds of files in the Department it will necessarily take considerable time to prepare. If the members of the House think it is a reasonable motion, and the return will be of service to the House and the country then, of course, it would be granted.

Mr. WOOD understood that large lots had been sold and they wished to know particulars of the sales. The return brought down last session was very imperfect. They wanted to know the terms of payment, dates of application, etc.

Hon. T. B. PARDEE said if the hon. gentleman wanted any other information he would bring it down.

Mr. WOOD said it would be very valuable, as it was important that people should have full information, and he would be glad if the Minister of Crown Lands would supply it. Applications were being made continually for lots which were being taken up, and many of the settlers were not aware of it until the sale had been complete.

Mr. CARNEGIE thought certainly the return they obtained last session was a most valuable one in the interests of the country. He did not think anyone had any idea that the Crown

lands were being handed over to private parties to the extent which that return showed that they were in the county of Peterborough. As in the county of Hastings, where there must be a very small quantity of Crown lands to dispose of, the lots had been sold over the heads of the settlers without their knowledge. He thought the same thing must have been done to a greater extent in the county of Peterborough, and taking that view this return ought to be brought down in the form in which they had asked for it. With reference to the lots sold to Cole, he asked the price which the Government had obtained.

Hon. T. B. PARDEE—A dollar an acre.

Mr. CARNEGIE was glad to hear that this was the price, and not 50 or 75 cents as reported in the press.

Mr. MEREDITH did not want the one right which the Opposition had of getting information limited. If they went to the Departments for this information they would not be entitled to get it, and applying for it in the House was the only means they had of getting it.

Mr. CARNEGIE consented to the question standing over until he had decided as to the lots he required information on.

THE SMALLPOX OUTBREAK.

Mr. WOOD moved for a return showing in detail the expenditures made in the township of Hungerford by the authority of the Provincial Board of Health during the late smallpox epidemic that prevailed in that township, with the number of cases and deaths, and the length of time the epidemic prevailed.

Hon. A. M. ROSS asked if the hon. gentleman had no objection that he should leave discussion over till to-morrow.

Mr. WOOD did not intend to discuss it. A little while ago the hon. gentleman's colleagues had said they had no right to ask for a return without explaining the reason for it. He did not think Mr. Ross' action consistent with that doctrine.

Hon. A. M. ROSS thought the hon. gentleman misunderstood him. He had a right to obtain all information, and in order to do this had merely asked that discussion be left over till to-morrow.

Mr. MORRIS moved that the question be allowed to stand till to-morrow. It was a matter which affected all parts of the Province, and he would like to know what the expenditure amounted to, and why it was made.

The motion was allowed to stand.

THE CREAMERY.

Mr. BRERETON moved for a return showing the number of instructors engaged in the creamery at Guelph, with the salary of each; the number of students instructed in the art of butter-making, distinguishing between those attending the college and those attending to learn the butter-making only.—Carried.

ENQUIRIES.

Mr. CLANCY asked when they might expect certain returns with reference to draining matters asked for last session. They were important to the localities to which they referred.

Hon. A. M. ROSS said they got all these returns last session if he remembered aright.

Mr. CLANCY said there were three which he had asked for that were not brought down.

Hon. A. M. ROSS understood they had all been brought down but would look into the matter.

Mr. ERMATINGER asked about the returns for which he had moved last session respecting the purchase by the Government of various exhibits in the district of Algoma previous to the last general election.

Hon. A. M. ROSS said he would make enquiries with regard to it.

The House adjourned at 4:05.