

Mr. GIBSON (Huron) was in favor of continuing the grant for another year.

Mr. DRYDEN said that some years ago he had taken a position adverse to the continuance of the grant, and subsequent events had strengthened him in that view. The work for which the Provincial was designed was now being far better done in other institutions. It was being crowded out of the best cities into the smaller places. He agreed that if there was any argument for the continuance of the exhibition, it was when it was held in Eastern Ontario. But even the City of Ottawa had said that they did not want the Provincial, and they were going to have an exhibition of their own. The central fairs in Toronto, Hamilton and London were of quite as Provincial a character as the institution which was called "Provincial," and a prize taken at the Toronto Exhibition, on account of the greater competition, was of more value than a prize taken at the Provincial. He did not believe that if the grant was discontinued it was absolutely necessary to give the money to other exhibitions or to spend it in any other way.

Mr. AWREY suggested that the grant be given to Kingston this year, but that the House on concurrence should express its opinion that the grant should be discontinued until good grounds were shown for renewing it.

Mr. WATERS said that experience had shown that the Provincial Exhibition was not able to hold its own, not because of any fault in itself, but because its place was being taken by the central fairs.

Mr. RAYSIDE favored the continuation of the fair in justice to Eastern Ontario.

Mr. CONMEE said there was plenty of room for the fair in Ontario.

Hon. A. M. ROSS said the question was solving itself, for circumstances were gradually forcing it out of existence. The general opinion of the House appeared to be that the grant should be continued for another year. If, however, the continuance of the grant after that was to result in placing the Provincial Exhibition in a lower position than it ought to occupy, it would be better to discontinue the grant.

The item was allowed to stand.

The following items were also passed:—Hospitals and charities, \$113,277 24; charges on Crown lands, \$101,900; refund account, \$27,954 24; statute, \$21,500; miscellaneous expenditure, \$68,100.

The items were then concurred in by the House.

#### THE ONTARIO RAIL WAY ACT.

Mr. BRONSGN took up consideration of his bill to amend the Railway Act of Ontario. He said that one of the chief dangers of railway travelling arose from the use of stoves for heating cars. Many railway companies had adopted the plan of heating cars with steam from the locomotive boiler, which was not only safer but less expensive. His bill proposed to restrict the mode of heating cars to the use of steam, save in certain exceptional cases named in the bill. The bill also placed restrictions upon the method of lighting cars; and further pro-

vided for the prohibition of the running of trains on Sunday, save in case of relief in case of accident; the prohibition not to include trains which had commenced their journey before the Sabbath day. The hon. gentleman dwelt on the evil of Sabbath work, showed how hardly it bore upon the hands employed, and quoted extensively from railway officials to show that they generally favored abstinence from work on that day. It was so late in the session, however, that he feared the bill would hardly be able to meet with the consideration it merited this session. He therefore moved its discharge.

The motion was carried.

#### WIDTH OF SLEIGHS.

Mr. BISHOP moved the second reading of his bill to regulate the width of sleighs to be used on the public highways. The bill, he explained, provides that the Council of any county may pass a by-law providing that no sled, sleigh or other vehicle upon runners (save cutters or pleasure sleighs) shall be used for the conveyance of persons or goods on any of the roads or highways within the county,

unless the runners thereof shall be at least three feet six inches apart.

Mr. HUDSON and other hon. gentlemen opposed the bill, which was read a second time and referred to the Municipal Committee.

#### FIRST READINGS.

The following bills were introduced and read a first time:—

To amend the Act respecting benevolent and provident societies—Hon. Mr. Mowat.

To amend the Act respecting solemnisation of marriages.

To amend the Act respecting administration of law in this Province.

#### PRIVATE BILLS.

The following private bills were advanced a stage:—

To amend the Assessment Act—Mr. Fell.

To amend the Assessment Act—Mr. Marter.

To amend the Act respecting ditches and watercourses—Mr. Harcourt.

To amend the Assessment Act—Mr. Guthrie.

To amend the Municipal Act—Mr. Guthrie.

To amend the Assessment Act—Mr. Drury.

#### REPORTED DEATH OF EMPEROR WILLIAM.

On the motion to adjourn,

Mr. HESS moved that the House pass a vote of condolence with the Germans in Ontario in connection with the reported death of Emperor William. He spoke briefly and in the most affectionate terms of the deceased Sovereign, and dwelt on his numerous excellences.

The vote was passed unanimously, and

The House adjourned at 10.45.

#### NOTICE OF MOTIONS.

The Attorney-General will move on to-morrow that Government orders may be taken on that day after the orders of the day are disposed of, and that Government orders shall have precedence thereafter on every day over all other business except private bills.