

gentleman did not agree with the majority of the temperance men or with, for instance, the Methodist body, which had passed a resolution opposed to the local control of licenses. Who could suppose that if the municipalities had control of licenses it would be possible to enforce a law to close public houses at 7 o'clock on Saturday evening? He had had the honor to serve as a town councillor at a time when the municipalities controlled the licenses, and he could speak from his own experience of the pressure brought to bear upon councillors to grant licenses to places that had no sound claim to them. It seemed to him (Mr. Smith) that the Treasurer had made a statement so clear, so complete, so reasonable that there was really nothing to find fault with and his critic had been driven to make statements which he would not have made had he more material to deal with. The hon. gentleman made the extraordinary statement that the amounts received for land should be counted as a charge against the Province. The fact was that these lands were sold at the proper time and had yielded a good price. The complaint among purchasers as he had heard them was that the Treasurer had not been sufficiently generous and had got for the lands all they were worth.

**Mr. Marter.**

Mr. Marter plunged at once into the question of the surplus, quoting figures to show that the present Government had spent more than it had received, drawing the inference that the Government had drawn upon the surplus piled up by the Sandfield Macdonald Administration, and consequently, on its own record, had a deficit and not a surplus at all. The last speaker he believed had misunderstood Mr. Clarke in respect of the license question. That hon. gentleman did not say that the licenses should be controlled by the municipalities, but that the funds collected for licenses should be left



with the municipalities. It had been argued by the last speaker that if the municipalities were in control the law would not be enforced. The municipalities could at least do as well as the present Government, which in these matters merely favored its friends, enforcing the law against those who did not support them. He contended that in the purchase of supplies for public institutions the Government should deal under a system of contracts let by tender, and not by private arrangement. He charged favoritism, and said that the Government bought old stock from their friends at high prices. He wanted to have this surplus question settled, and declared that if it could be shown that the funds claimed as a surplus by the Government were not in existence under the Sandfield Macdonald Government he would cross the floor and support the Administration.

A voice—We don't want you.  
Mr. Marter—You would be glad to have me. If I had agreed to give the Government an independent support I would have had no opponent in the last election.

**Mr. Davis.**

Mr. Davis of North York dealt with the question of the distribution of licenses. He claimed that the present division as between the Government and the municipalities was quite satisfactory. He could not agree with the hon. member from Toronto that all the receipts from liquor licenses should go to the municipalities. The Government had the responsibility of the issue of the licenses, and it was only reasonable that it should receive a part of the receipts from them. Perhaps the hon. gentleman would favor the handing over of the license system to the municipalities. But Mr. Davis said he felt sure he was speaking the



mind of three-fifths of the municipal men of the country and of the temperance workers when he said it would not be in the interest of temperance. Speaking of the question of subsidies, he said it ought to be remembered that the friends of the hon. member for Toronto at Ottawa had repeatedly increased the amounts of the subsidies to the smaller Provinces, while Ontario, paying the greatest portion of them, herself had received no increase. With regard to the grants to education, Mr. Davis defended the liberal support that had been extended by the Government to High Schools and collegiate institutes. His speech was a comprehensive review of the matters in debate and the members applauded him heartily when he resumed his seat. It was fifteen minutes after 10 o'clock, and Mr. Sol. White moved the adjournment of the debate.

**Notes.**

Hon. J. M. Gibson, recovered from his illness, was in his place again.

Dr. Gilmour introduced a bill amending the Municipal Act.

Mr. Douglas Cameron and others from Rat Portage are in the city to interview the Attorney-General.

The Public Accounts Committee and the Committee on Private Bills will meet this morning at 10.30 o'clock.

A bill introduced by Dr. Wylie to authorise the Town of Collingwood to issue certain debentures was read a first time.

Mr. G. B. Smith introduced the bill of which an explanation appeared in yesterday's GLOBE, to amend the municipal election law.

During the afternoon almost every seat was occupied; in the evening more members were absent but the attendance was very large.

The first night sitting of the session was held last evening. The galleries were filled with both sexes, and, in the language of the theatre, the Legislature played to a full house.

Among the visitors at the House to hear the budget speech were the ex-Treasurer, Hon. A. M. Ross, and the ex-lieutenant of the Opposition, Mr. D. Creighton; Messrs. Wm. Mulock, M. P., Thos. Waters of Lindsay, J. W. St. John, George Eakins and Col. Hamilton.

Mr. McColl's bill to amend the Registry Act provides that "no greater fee than 25 cents shall be charged for searching the abstract index with respect to any lot or part of a lot as originally patented by the Crown, or as afterwards subdivided into smaller lots as shown by any registered map or plan thereof whatever number of entries may be contained therein."

With regard to a paragraph which appeared in this report yesterday referring to a deputation of two members of the Society of Friends to wait upon the Attorney-General, it is but fair to the society known as Fast Friends or Progressive Friends to explain that the references to them were made in the nature of an interview with Mr. Haight, one of the deputation.

An influential deputation from the Village of Huntsville, Muskoka, had an audience with the Hon. Commissioner of Public Works this afternoon and presented a largely signed petition from the settlers, merchants and others interested in the scheme for the Government's assistance in making a channel connecting the Lake of Bays with the Peninsula Lake, showing how an enormous saving can be made in getting out lumber, pulp wood, ties, etc., from a large tract of country at present undeveloped on account of the difficulty and expense of bringing the material to a handy market. Hon. Mr. Fraser gave a patient hearing and promised the early attention of the Executive to the matter.

The villages of Burk's Falls, Maganetawan, McKellar and Dunchurch are numerously represented by deputations to interview the Government. They are after a bonus for a spur railway line to connect the G.T.R. at Burk's Falls with the head waters of the Maganetawan River. The spur line will be one and a half miles long and it will open up 35 miles of inland navigation. These villages expect a literal boom should the railway be built. Muskoka's business enterprise at present is busy forming deputations. The hotels are crowded with deputations from every township, all wanting a bonus for some road, bridge or other local enterprise.

There is war to the knife amongst the public men in Parry Sound. Last year the villages of Parry Sound and Parry Harbor were united into one municipality as the Town of Parry Sound. The first cause of trouble was that the larger village bought a fire engine and assessed the Harbor with a share that they claim was unjust. Then a month ago, Parry Sound, which is one of the banner temperance villages of Ontario, passed the Temperance Act, thus closing the licensed hotel in Parry Harbor. Then the war began. Parry Harbor demanded separation, and Judge McCuny and Mr. J. W. Fitzgerald are in the city pushing a bill that Mr. Sharpe has introduced to make Parry Harbor a separate village. Parry Sound is opposing the measure, and the mayor and Mr. Haight are here and both sides have had interviews and presented their views to the Attorney-General.

Mr. Kilgannon, the projector and engineer of the Manitoulin & North Shore Railway, is in the city to interview the Government. This line was granted a bonus of \$3,000 per mile last session, in all \$96,000. The line was to run from Spanish River to Little Current, but engineering difficulties make it necessary to start from Nelson Station, which will make the road eight miles longer. They are asking for a grant for the additional mileage, and also for help towards a bridge that will cost \$125,000. Should these concessions be granted, the railway will be commenced next spring and the island connected with the mainland by next fall. In this connection a suggestion was made that if adopted may revolutionise the bonus system. It is that the Government capitalise the grant and guarantee interest on the bonds, which would then sell at par instead of at a heavy discount. The proposition will receive the consideration of the Government.

**Notices of Motion.**

Mr. Hudson—Resolution—Mr. Hudson, a member of this House, having stated in his place that he is credibly informed and verily believes that at and during the election, held on the 5th day of June, 1890, of a member to represent the electoral district of the East Riding of the County of Hastings in this House, gross irregularities and frauds were committed by D. R. Learens, the returning officer appointed