

seven hundred and forty-three dollars was received in 1891 from this source, against \$36,486 in 1890.

REPORT ON GAOLS AND PRISONS.

The 24th annual report of the inspector of prisons and public charities upon the gaols, prisons and reformatories of the Province, being for the year ending September 30, 1891, was presented to the House today. A marked improvement during the past year in the furnishing and sanitary condition of these places and in the classification of prisoners is reported. During the year there has been a large decrease in crime throughout the Province, the number of committals having been 10,423 against 11,810 in 1890, or 1,387 less than the previous year, a decrease of 11½ per cent. In no year since 1833 have the committals been so low. The decrease has not been peculiar to any section, but has been generally distributed over the whole Province. The most noticeable decrease is in Toronto, where the number of committals was 3,371 last year as against 3,984 in 1890, or 613 less. The marked reduction in the number of committals for drunkenness during the past year of 959 is no doubt due in a great measure to the very stringent statutory regulations in reference to the sale of intoxicating liquors, the efficient supervision of the license inspectors and the growing conviction on the part of the Province that an excessive use of stimulants is both physically and mentally injurious. The greatest difficulty in the way of the proper management of our gaols is the growing disposition to convert them into poorhouses. It is a disgrace to the people of this Province to allow their aged poor who have committed no crime against the laws of the land to be incarcerated within prison walls. It is inhuman, unchristian and unpatriotic, and should be prevented by the most stringent legislation if not immediately remedied by the authorities of the various counties. There are a few industrial homes in the western part of the Province which are in very efficient working order. Since the establishment of these institutions there has been a feeling of greater satisfaction among the municipalities of the respective counties from the knowledge that their aged poor are properly kept at no greater cost than under the old system. The average cost of each prisoner throughout the Province is 25 cents.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

The report of the committee to strike the standing committees is as follows:—

Committee on Privileges and Elections—Mr. Harcourt, chairman; the Attorney-General, Messrs. Barr, Blezard, Bush, Caldwell, Charlton, Clancy, E. F. Clarke (Toronto), Connee, Dack, Dowling, Dryden, Evanturel, Fraser, Gibson (Hamilton), Gilmour, Godwin, Hudson, Mack, Meacham, Meredith, Miscampbell, Monk, McKay (Victoria), McKenzie (E. Lambton), McMahon, Paton, Rayside, Rorke, Sharpe, Snider, Tait, Waters, White, Whitney, Wood (Hastings)—37.

Committee on Private Bills—Mr. Gibson (Hamilton), chairman; Messrs. Allan, Awrey, Balfour, Baxter, Biggar, Bishop, Blezard, Bronson, Caldwell, Campbell (Durham), Carpenter, Chisholm, Clancy, H. E. Clarke (Toronto), E. F. Clarke (Toronto), Dack, Davis, Dowling, Dryden, Evanturel, Ferguson, Fell, Field, Fraser, Garrow, Gibson (Huron), Gilmour, Guthrie, Hammell, Harcourt, Hardy, Hiscott, Hudson, Kerns, Kirkwood, Mackenzie (W. Lambton), Magwood, Marter, Meacham, Meredith, Monk, McColl, McLenaghan, McKay (Oxford), McKenzie (E. Lambton), McMahon, O'Connor, Preston, Rayside, Reid, Robillard, Rorke, Smith (Frontenac), Snider, Sprague, Stratton, Tait, Tooley, Waters, White, Whitney, Willoughby, Wood (Brant), Wood (Hastings), Wylie—66.

Committee on Printing—Mr. Balfour, chairman; Messrs. Bishop, Caldwell, Campbell (Algoma), Chisholm, Clancy, E. F. Clarke (Toronto), Dack, Evanturel, Har-

court, Ross, Stratton, Willoughby, Wood (Hastings)—14.

Committee on Standing Orders—Mr. O'Connor, chairman; Messrs. Allan, Barr, Baxter, Biggar, Bishop, Bush, Campbell (Algoma), Campbell (Durham), Carpenter, Charlton, Chisholm, Cleland, Dack, Davis, Dowling, Fell, Ferguson, Field, Gibson (Huron), Glendining, Hammell, Hudson, Kerns, Lockhart, Loughrin, McLenaghan, Monk, McCleary, McKay (Oxford), Moore, Preston, Rayside, Rorke, Sharpe, Smith (Frontenac), Smith (York), Snider, Sprague, Stratton, Tooley, Wood (Brant)—43.

Committee on Railways.—Mr. Hardy, chairman; Messrs. Allan, Awrey, Balfour, Barr, Baxter, Biggar, Bishop, Blezard, Bronson, Caldwell, Campbell (Algoma), Campbell (Durham), Carpenter, Chisholm, Charlton, E. F. Clarke (Toronto), H. E. Clarke (Toronto), Cleland, Connee, Dack, Davis, Dowling, Dryden, Evanturel, Fell, Ferguson, Field, Garrow, Glendining, Gibson (Hamilton), Gibson (Huron), Gilmour, Godwin, Guthrie, Hammell, Hiscott, Kerns, Lockhart, Loughrin, Mack, Mackenzie (West Lambton), Magwood, Marter, Meacham, Meredith, Miscampbell, Monk, Moore, McCleary, McColl, McKay (Victoria), McKechnie, McLenaghan, McMahon, O'Connor, Paton, Porter, Preston, Rayside, Reid, Robillard, Rorke, Sharpe, Smith (York), Snider, Sprague, Stratton, Tait, Tooley, White, Whitney, Willoughby, Wood (Brant), Wood (Hastings), Wylie—76.

Municipal Committee — Mr. Hardy, chairman; Messrs. Allen, Awrey, Balfour, Bishop, Bronson, Bush, Campbell (Durham), Clancy, E. F. Clarke (Toronto), Cleland, Connee, Davis, Dryden, Fell, Ferguson, Field, Fraser, Garrow, Gibson (Huron), Gilmour, Glendining, Godwin, Guthrie, Hiscott, Hudson, Kerns, Kirkwood, Lockhart, Loughrin, Mack, Mackenzie (W. Lambton), Magwood, Marter, Meacham, Meredith, Miscampbell, Monk, Moore, McCleary, McColl, McKay (Oxford), McKay (Victoria), McKenzie (E. Lambton), McKechnie, McMahon, O'Connor, Paton, Porter, Preston, Reid, Robillard, Rorke, Smith (York), Sprague, Stratton, Tait, Tooley, Waters, Willoughby, Wood (Brant), Wood (Hastings), Wyle—64.

Committee on Public Accounts—Messrs. Awrey, Balfour, Caldwell, Clancy, H. E. Clarke (Toronto), Davis, Garrow, Harcourt, Hardy, Mackenzie (West Lambton), Marter, Meredith, Kerns, O'Connor, Smith (York), Waters, Whitney, White, Wood (Brant), Wood (Hastings)—20.

TO AMEND THE MUNICIPAL ACT.

Mr. Willoughby introduced a bill to amend the Municipal Act. It has for its object the same purpose as his bill of last year in regard to bridges within 80 chains of county boundaries, declaring them to be county boundary bridges, but limiting the obligation to bridges that were originally built either wholly or in part by counties or parts of counties.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

Mr. Willoughby—Bill to amend the Municipal Act.

Mr. McKay (Oxford)—Bill to amend the Municipal Act.

Mr. Sharpe—Bill to amend the Municipal Act.

Mr. Barr—Inquiry of the Ministry—Did the Minister of Agriculture, or any person authorised by him, promise to supply each member of the farmers' institute with all bulletins and reports of the Agricultural College and model farm?