

ting away the danger of any of the people ever listening to the opinions entertained by the last speaker. (Applause.) He then dealt with the Agricultural College, showing the great success that had attended both the farm and the college, and the immense value the experiments made there were to the farmers of the Province.

Mr. White denied the insinuation that he had ever smuggled cattle into this country. He brought over several thoroughbred animals, on which there was no duty. He paid the entry fee and brought them over in a boat in the usual way.

Mr. Whitney expressed pleasure at hearing this public denial of a charge which had been spread over the country, and which he had not noticed to be repudiated before. He urged that the bulletin system should be more liberally extended among the farmers of the Province.

Mr. Dryden replied that it was the desire of the department to give every farmer in Ontario the benefit of this information. Every member of a farmers' institute, the membership fee of which was only 25 cents, was sent copies of the bulletin.

Mr. Wood (Hastings) claimed that the depreciation in farm property was due to neglect, and that the extent of the depreciation was not so great as stated by the other side of the House.

Mr. McKenzie put in a good word for the college and for the gentlemen who visit and deliver addresses before the farmers' institutes.

Mr. Blezard opposed a suggestion that the debate should be closed. This was farmers' night, he said, and as they were the bone and sinew of the country they had a right to fully express their views. He denied that politics was the main subject discussed at the institute meetings, and spoke of their importance and usefulness.

Mr. Davis made a good speech in defence of the farmers' institutes and the lectures carried on under their auspices. Mr. Allen also spoke along the same lines. They did not in his locality talk blue ruin. They were fairly prosperous, but at the same time they thoroughly believed that they would be more prosperous still if better trade relations could be secured with the neighboring country. (Applause.)

Mr. Magwood said that the Opposition was in sympathy with both the college and the institutes, but opposed to the methods of procedure. He thought there was too much politics brought into the meetings.

Mr. Awrey denied the charge that the Central Farmers' Institute was run as a political machine. For three years he had occupied the position of chairman. His nominator for that office was a Conservative, the vice-president was a Conservative and so were many others among the membership. The farmers had a perfect right to discuss questions that so vitally affected their interests. In his annual address he pointed out how advantageous it would be to have the markets to the south of us open to the agricultural community of this Province. Could the hon. members oppose this when the Government at Ottawa sent a delegation to Washington to ask for the very thing he had mentioned as desirable? He did not bring up the question of unrestricted reciprocity at the meetings. The men who were sent to address the various institute meetings were many of them of strong Conservative leanings, and he had himself proposed to invite Hon. Mr. Carling to address them on the possibilities of the British market. He was not able to attend, but sent Prof. Robertson to represent him. Speaking for himself as president of the Central Institutes he was strongly opposed to allowing the United States to fix our tariff, and had in every way striven to keep out politics while allowing a free expression of opinion on the part of the members. (Applause.)

Mr. Wood (Hastings), Mr. Monk, Mr. Hudson, Mr. Smith (York) and others continued the debate, all bearing on the subject of the evening. Mr. Smith's speech was particularly good, being a repudiation of the charge that politics was the main staple in the institute meetings. The Re-

form party, he asserted, never made commercial union their policy, but simply sought an extension of the old reciprocity treaty to include manufactures.

Mr. Awrey again spoke at length in vindication of his course as president of the Central Institute.

The committee rose and reported progress at 11 o'clock, after which the House adjourned.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES.

THE PETERBORO' BRIDGE TROUBLES COME BEFORE THE PRIVATE BILLS COMMITTEE.

The great fight over the maintenance of bridges between the counties of Victoria, Peterboro' and Northumberland was renewed this morning before the Private Bills Committee, when the bill introduced by Mr. McKay (Victoria) to amend the act respecting the Township of Harvey came up. The original act passed in 1879 had the effect of removing the road used as a boundary line between Peterboro' and Victoria and the bridges on it and also the road traversing Bobcaygeon, which therefore were maintained jointly, from the joint jurisdiction of the counties and casting the whole burden of maintaining them upon Victoria. Mr. McKay's bill proposed that these roads and the bridges known as "Big Bob" and "Little Bob" and "The Forest House," shall be again under the joint jurisdiction and be maintained jointly by Peterboro' and Victoria. The same deputation of reeves of the different townships of Peterboro', headed by Warden Foster, which interviewed the Government last night, was again on hand and energetically opposed the bill. After a long discussion the bill was carried by a majority of one, the vote being 23 to 22. The bill to enable the Village of Renfrew to issue debentures for \$30,000 and the bill to authorise Strathroy to issue debentures in lieu of debentures falling due in 1892 were adopted with slight amendments.

THE ONTARIO SHIP RAILWAY.

The bill to incorporate the Ontario Ship Railway Company came before the Railway Committee this morning. Those seeking incorporation are David Blain, H. H. Cook, John C. Fitch, Hugh Blain, Joseph Blakeley, Mark Irish, Kivas Tully, all of Toronto; E. L. Corthell of Chicago and William Bell of Sault Ste. Marie, and they propose to build a railway from some point on Lake Ontario to some point on Georgian Bay or Lake Simcoe or both. An outline of the bill has already been given in THE GLOBE. Mr. Blain made a long address explaining the details of the project. Mr. Hardy had another engagement about 11.30 and further consideration of the bill was postponed until Tuesday next.

PROTECTION OF SHEEP.

The special committee to consider Mr. Waters' bill respecting dogs and the protection of sheep was called for this morning but there was no quorum.

THE INSURANCE BILL.

A deputation of representatives of benevolent and friendly societies, consisting of Messrs. Joseph Tait, M.P.P., E. F. Clarke, M.P.P., A. F. Campbell, M.P.P., Dr. Oronhyatekha, John A. McGillivray, A. J. Patterson, W. F. Montague, J. Miller, J. B. Leubsdorf, Dr. Milman, D. Rose, J. A. McMurtry, D. H. Watt, W. W. Buchanan, Dr. B. E. McKenzie and others, waited upon Mr. Gibson this afternoon with reference to the bill respecting insurance companies. Among the changes they wanted in the bill was that a substantial deposit should be required in cases when a special audit because of fraud is demanded. They strongly objected to the section requiring the terms and conditions of an insurance contract to be set out on the face or back of the instrument forming the contract, stating that such conditions were embodied in the constitutions of the various societies and were generally too long to be so printed.