

The annual report of the Toronto General Trusts & Loan Co. was laid on the table by Mr. Gibson (Hamilton). It stated that the original capital of \$200,000 was increased on April 2nd, 1882, to \$300,000. On October 29, 1883, the capital was further increased to \$500,000, and on July 15, 1887, the capital was increased to \$1,000,000, or 20,000 shares at \$50 each.

Among the visitors to the house to-day were Hon. David M. Howard Martin, Q. C., Hamilton, and J. C. Messrs. T. D. Craig, M. P., for Hamilton, and Mayor McClean, of Toronto, formed a deputation that waited on Mr. Hardy to-day and asked that the municipal act shall be so amended as to provide that a town separated from a county shall have the right to take part in the preliminary meetings for the separation of counties. It is noted in consideration of the fact that the town will have to bear its share of the expense of erecting new county buildings.

The government was to-day waited upon by a deputation composed of Henry Pettit and George Lloyd Jones of the Central Farmers' Institute; G. W. Cline, president of the Grimsby Fruitgrowers' association; J. M. Foran of the Winona Grapegrowers' company, and Thomas H. P. Carpenter of the county of Wentworth Fruitgrowers' association, who asked that those engaged in agricultural pursuits be exempted from liability under the work-

men's compensation for injuries act. The deputation was accompanied by Messrs. Charlton and Waters.

Mr. Davis, than whom no member of the house has taken a deeper or more earnest interest in the temperance cause, has given notice of a bill making provision for the taking of a plebiscite on the question of prohibition. This action is taken in compliance with the hundreds of petitions which have been presented to the legislature, and with the terms of the resolution adopted at the meeting of prohibitionists held in the parliament buildings last week. The exact method of securing the popular verdict on the liquor question has not yet been decided upon, but it is altogether probable that provision will be made for the submission of the question at the next municipal or the next provincial election. Many strong arguments have been advanced in favor of taking the vote at the municipal elections, as the result, it is almost certain, would be known before the Dominion parliament undertakes the consideration of the report of the prohibition commission. Finally, the question must be settled by the Dominion parliament, and it is argued that a straight declaration from Ontario in favor of the abolition of the traffic will materially assist that august body in coming to a