

merely temporary character." Mr. Whitney joined in the discussion, and the resolution finally passed with the second clause struck out and the last clause made to read thus:—"Also a similar return as to all sessional clerks employed in 1893, and now employed."

BIENNIAL SESSIONS.

Mr. Marter's resolution regarding the abolition of Government House was next on the paper, but the member for Muskoka was absent and the motion stood. Mr. Meredith's resolution for biennial sessions was next called, and he asked the Attorney-General if a day could be named when it would be taken up. After a conversation of a minute or two, the debate on the subject was fixed for Wednesday of next week.

PUBLIC SERVICE RETURNS.

Mr. Balfour moved for an order of the House as follows:—That returns provided for by the orders of this House relating to the public service, passed on the 10th day of April and 19th day of May last, shall contain, in addition to the information for the year 1871 and 1892, provided for by the said orders, like information regarding the year 1873.

This motion of Mr. Balfour is better understood when placed in juxtaposition with the orders of the House referred to. On April 6 in the session of 1893 Mr. Meredith moved for an order of the House for a return of the names of all persons who during the year 1871 held office under the Crown or were employed in or in connection with any department or branch of the public service, to whom or in respect of whose office or employment any salary or remuneration was paid out of the consolidated revenue fund or any special fund applicable for the purpose, or by fees or otherwise, and whether the office or employment was permanent or temporary, together with a statement of the salary or remuneration attached to or payable in respect of each such office or employment, and the amount paid in the said year to each of such persons, and the date when each permanent office was created, and for a like return for the year 1893; the several branches of the public service to which such return relates to be classified therein as nearly as practicable as the same are classified in the public accounts.

On the 15th of May in the same session Mr. Davis moved for an order of the House for a return showing, in addition to, and as part of the return relating to the public service, ordered by the House on the 10th day of April last, the number of letters written from each of the departments of the Government of the Province during the years 1871 and 1892 respectively, relating exclusively to the public service, and distinguishing, as far as practicable, those written by the different branches of each department, and giving also a statement from each of the departments showing comparatively the volume of business done in each department during the said years 1871 and 1892, such statement to classify, so far as practicable, the business under general heads, and to set out the causes of increase or decrease under each head, and to specify the branches of the public service, and the additions thereto which have come into existence since the year 1871.

Mr. Meredith said this return affected one ordered by him last session, and which should have been down last session. He objected to the return asked for by him being delayed to have matter added to it that he had not asked for. He remembered several years ago that the Attorney-General had expressed his willingness to assume responsibility for the acts of Mr. Blake's Government, but from this motion it looked as if the Government wanted to decline that responsibility now, seeing that it wanted a comparison between the conditions of the first and last years under the present Government, rather than between the Government of Mr. Blake and of the present Administration.

The Attorney-General smilingly said he had not assumed responsibility for Mr. Blake's Government, but he had no doubt all he did was right. He added that the first year asked for, 1871, would cover the Sandfield Macdonald Administration, not that of Mr. Blake.

Mr. Hardy pointed out that the return now asked for would show the first full year of the present Administration, and the last up to the time of Mr. Meredith's motion. Mr. Meredith's point, said Mr. Hardy, would have been better taken if the original returns asked for had covered '72 instead of '71.

The motion then passed.

INQUESTS ON VAGRANTS.

Mr. Barr (Dufferin) moved for an order of the House for a return showing the number of inquests held during the past three years on the death of persons committed for vagrancy in the gaols, prisons,

houses of correction, lock-ups, or houses of industry, and the cost in connection with the holding of inquests. Mr. Barr said there was a great waste of money under the present system, as he thought the House would see when the return came down.

The motion was carried.

THE BINDER TWINE INDUSTRY.

Mr. Preston moved for an order of the House for a return showing the amounts expended in connection with the Provincial binder twine industry, (1) for buildings, (2) for machinery, (3) for materials, (4) for labor and superintendence, with the names of foremen or superintendents employed, and the wages or salary paid to each of them; and showing also, (1) the total output of twine in quantity, and the amounts realized therefrom, giving the names from whom the same were received and the dates of the receipt of each sum; (2) the total quantity of twine on hand; (3) the total quantity of material on hand; (4) the amounts (if any) remaining unpaid by the purchasers, with the names of the persons by whom the same are payable; (5) the names of the agents employed for the sale or disposal of the twine, and the remuneration paid or payable to each of them.

THE TREASURER'S STATEMENT.

Hon. Mr. Harcourt said he was prepared to deliver his financial statement on Thursday, but the printers were not ready. If the House wished, Friday or Monday could be taken. If not, it could be given Tuesday.

Mr. Meredith thought the public accounts should be distributed a sufficient time before the speech was made to enable all members of the House to become conversant with them. They could not criticize the statement without having had the figures before them.

Hon. Mr. Harcourt said he could safely say that the accounts would be on their desks not an hour later than Thursday afternoon. He would much prefer Monday afternoon to Tuesday for making his statement.

Mr. Meredith—Monday is a public day.

Hon. Mr. Harcourt—I am ready on Thursday.

Mr. Meredith said the Treasurer could not be said to be quite ready while the public accounts were in the hands of the printers. There might be circumstances that were unavoidable to cause the delay in this respect, but at least the responsibility for the delay of the discussion until Tuesday did not lie with the Opposition.

The Treasurer asked if the Opposition would care to take the budget on Thursday if the public accounts were ready Tuesday afternoon.

Mr. Meredith thought the time very short.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

Mr. Preston asked when the report on the Agricultural College would be ready.

Hon. Mr. Dryden said he was as anxious for it to come down as Mr. Preston, and thought he could promise it in a few days.

PROVINCIAL INDEBTEDNESS.

Mr. Meredith called the attention of the House to a resolution that was passed in 1884, declaring that it was desirable that within ten days after the beginning of the sessions a statement should be presented to the House showing the indebtedness of the Province.

Hon. Mr. Harcourt said his attention had not been called to the point before, but he would have such a statement prepared as quickly as possible.

EDUCATIONAL ORDER.

Hon. G. W. Ross presented the following orders in Council relating to education, at subjects:—

First—That regulation 41 be amended to read as follows:—

First—The standing of the second, third and fourth years in arts, after a regular course in any chartered university in the British dominions, will be accepted by the Education Department in lieu of the primary, junior leaving and senior leaving examinations respectively.

Second—The said regulation 41 is further amended by adding thereto the following sub-sections (3) and (4):—

(3)—Any person graduating after a regular course with honors at any university in Ontario, in English, mathematics, classics, or French and German, shall be ranked as a specialist in the department in which such person so graduated on passing the examinations prescribed for the Provincial School of Pedagogy.

(4)—The Minister of Education may, on the joint report of the High School inspectors, grant a certificate as a specialist to any graduate actually engaged as a principal or assistant in any High School or Collegiate Institute on July 1st, 1885, who has taught continuously in a High