

NO LOCATIONS GRANTED.

Mr. Conmee's Application for Mining Lands.

TORONTO REGISTRY OFFICE.

Accounts Correct and Up To Date.

Legislative Chamber, March 5.

During the present session the habit has become common of one member presenting a bill to the House in the name of another who is absent. The irregularity of this proceeding, which puts upon the records of the House a motion not actually made by the member named, was pointed out by Mr. Ross and Mr. Gibson to-day. Hereafter it will be impossible for a member to introduce a bill in the name of an absent friend, but he may submit the bill in his own name.

Replying to a question by Mr. Miscampbell, the Provincial Secretary said that George Wheeler is the expert employed to make examination of samples of flour asked for by tender for the Orillia Asylum. He is paid by the Government at the rate of 75 cents for each sample submitted with the tender for flour. Nothing is paid for subsequent examinations in case of disputes arising as to the quality of flour delivered. There are seven horses and twenty-one horned cattle kept at the Orillia Asylum at Government expense.

APPLICATION NOT GRANTED.

Hon. Mr. Gibson answered a question asked by Dr. Willoughby. He said that since February 1, 1894, Mr. James Conmee applied for 108 mining locations, none of which were granted, and the lands applied for are open as mining lands. James Whalen within the period specified applied for 81 locations. Upon his filing evidence, making surveys and paying in the purchase money eleven of these have been granted, containing 372 acres. Hazelwood & Whalen applied for two locations, containing 66 acres, and for parts of lot 16 in the 9th concession of Pic, containing 160 acres. Upon filing evidence, making surveys and paying in the purchase money the lands were sold to them. Mr. Conmee made three applications for pulpwood permits during the period stated, covering areas at several points. One permit was issued to him, permitting him to cut pulpwood over an area of 21 1-4 square miles. Hazelwood & Whalen made nine applications, covering areas at several points. One permit was issued to them, to cut pulpwood over an area of 37 1-2 miles. James Whalen made one application for a pulpwood permit, which was not granted.

In reply to a question by Dr. Ryerson, Mr. Harcourt stated that the University buildings are insured for \$626,000, on which the annual premium is \$25; University property on old Up-Canada College grounds, insurance

\$22,500, premium \$259; Agricultural College, Guelph, \$32,000; Central Prison-binder twine factory, \$9,500; Government interest in Osgoode Hall, \$150,000; School of Practical Science building, \$120,000, and plant \$90,000. The risks are distributed among many companies.

Mr. Harcourt, in response to a question by Mr. Bennett, said that it is not the present intention of the Government to unite the license districts of Cornwall and Stormont and dispense with the services of one of the inspectors.

UP TO DATE AND CORRECT.

Dr. Ryerson asked, "When and by whom were the books of the Toronto Registry Office last audited—(a) on behalf of the City of Toronto; (b) on behalf of the Ontario Government?"

Mr. Gibson replied that there is no provision of law by which the accounts of Registrars are regularly audited. The Registrars make annual returns of fees received and their offices are inspected by the inspector of registry offices. When the question was put upon the paper a communication was received from one of the Registrars of Toronto assuring the Government that the accounts are up to date, scrupulously and accurately correct, and that the city, the Government or anyone appointed by Dr. Ryerson or Dr. Ryerson himself would find the books open to them at any time.

Mr. Langford asked: Is it the intention of the Government to refund to actual settlers the money paid by them for licenses to shoot deer during the past year, and is it their intention to amend the game act regulations passed in 1896?

The Commissioner of Crown Lands replied that actual settlers in unorganized districts are, under the law, exempt from the necessity of taking out licenses to shoot deer. The intimation was publicly made before the beginning of the last close season that a bona-fide settler in any unorganized township which might be considered a deer territory would have the same privilege. Licenses were in some cases taken out by such settlers, but provision was made by order in Council for a refund in such cases. Refunds have been made where the applications were in the terms of the order in Council.

SECOND READINGS.

Mr. McLean moved the second reading of his bill to amend the municipal act. He explained that the object of the bill was to enable municipalities to do their statute labor in the late fall and early winter, so that the fall rains and winter snow would pack the gravel and render the roads good for the spring, avoiding the bad roads which follow the gravelling under the present law.

Mr. Crawford's bill to amend the assessment act, providing that assessment appeals in Toronto should be made to the city, was opposed by Mr. Ross and Mr. Gibson. Mr. Gibson thought that a more impartial tribunal would be secured by having one of the local Judges and two Judges from outside. He thought that there had been so many amendments to the municipal act that a good reason should be shown in the House for any amendment before referring it to the Municipal Committee. The constant amendments to the municipal act were becoming a crying evil. Mr. Howland said that he was not either strongly in favor of or strongly against the bill. He thought that this and a number of other bills of this kind should be left to the commissioners for the consolidation of the municipal act. The bill was read a second time.

Mr. Ross' bill to amend the act incorporating Knox College was read a second time without discussion.

Mr. Auld's bill to divide the Township of Tilbury West and Mr. Carnegie's bill to confirm an agreement between the municipality of Dysart and others were also read a second time.

Mr. Harcourt, in answer to Col. Matheson, announced that the Public Accounts Committee would probably meet on Tuesday.