

arrangement of Mr. Tully, chief engineer and in the past, had been retained as consulting engineer and architect at a salary of \$2,000 instead of \$2,000 as in former years, and Mr. Matheson was now architect in charge of the buildings of the Province. The rearrangement had been made without any increase in the total of the salary bill. The Attorney-General added that Mr. Tully was retained not because of his long service alone, for had that been the only question he would have been given his retiring allowance, but because of the very special knowledge he possessed of the public buildings of the Province, so many of which had been erected under his care. The salary bill was passed. In rapid succession items were put through for \$23,225 for salaries in the Treasury Department, \$9,400 for the License and Administration of Justice accounts; \$10,725 for the Registrar-General's branch, a decrease of \$200; \$7,950 for the Provincial Board of Health; \$19,550 for the Provincial Secretary's Department, a decrease of \$250, and \$15,550 for the insurance branch. Col. Matheson thought this last might be decreased. This brought up Col. Gibson, who paid a very warm tribute to the great ability and great tact of Mr. Hunter, Inspector of Insurance, who enjoyed the confidence of the insurance companies and friendly societies throughout the Province. The vote was passed without change. The estimates of the Department of Agriculture were then taken up, and \$16,600 were voted for general salaries. Col. Matheson questioned the Government as to the duties of the Secretary of the Immigration Department. The Attorney-General answered that this was the only officer left in the service of the Province to whom immigrants coming to the Province could apply for information or assistance. He did the work formerly done by half a dozen agents stationed at different points in the Province.

The vote of \$127,100 for legislation was passed without debate. Mr. Haycock said there was doubtless some change in mileage, because the late Attorney-General lived in the city and his successor in the representation of Oxford lived in that county and would be entitled to mileage. The Attorney-General replied that the late leader of the Government had not drawn mileage, and neither did he (Mr. Hardy) nor any of his colleagues.

Mr. Haycock—But you live in Toronto.

Mr. Hardy—I never did, not even when I lived in Brantford.

The vote was passed without change.

In connection with the administration of justice Mr. Hardy explained that there were few increases represented in the estimate of \$443,344. In Parry Sound, Nipissing and some other districts there was an increase in the cost of the administration last year and the estimate had been increased accordingly.

#### MR. HAYCOCK ESCAPED.

For the maintenance of public institutions \$797,398 was asked. In answer to a question by Col. Matheson as to whether groceries for these institutions were to be submitted to tender, Mr. Harcourt said he could only say that wherever the system of tender would be introduced it would be. Mr. Haycock has been keeping an eye on asylum expenditures. He remarked that he had visited the London Asylum—

The Attorney-General—I wonder you got away. (Laughter.)

Mr. Haycock—I might not have got away, but the place was so crowded that there was no room for anyone else. I gave them some hints on feeding their stock there that I believe resulted in the saving of \$500 I notice in the item for that. (Applause.)

In quick succession \$97,287 for Toronto Asylum, \$130,050 for London Asylum, \$75,054 for Kingston Asylum, \$115,835 for Hamilton Asylum, \$76,446 for Mimico Asylum and \$50,335 for Brockville Asylum were passed.

During the first hour of the evening session the House voted \$1,257,951, and this without serious question of any of the items presented.

Mr. Davis explained that the reduction of \$2,000 in the estimate for coal for the Orillia Asylum was due to the adoption of a new system of furnaces by which coal siftings were used instead of coal. The estimate for the asylum was \$59,098. A similar change at the Central Prison would probably effect an economy of \$500. The total estimate was \$60,025. Col. Matheson

objected to the payment of \$31,930 for the maintenance of the Penetanguishene Reformatory. Col. Gibson asked for items which might be cut off, and Col. Matheson, apparently bearing Mark Twain's mountaineering expedition in mind, suggested chaplains, of whom there are two in the institution. Col. Gibson expressed the opinion that very few people would endorse this suggestion. The institution was not a prison but a school. Mr. Whitney asked if Col. Gibson could give any information as to the effects of the reformatory upon the boys as shown by their after life, and the Commissioner replied that they were exceedingly gratifying, and that very few boys who had gone through the reformatory became criminals. In response to a further suggestion that reduction be made, Mr. Davis made a telling explanation of the work done, as seen during a recent visit.

Without debate \$44,791 was voted for the Deaf and Dumb Institute at Belleville, and \$33,972 for the Institution for the Blind at Brantford. Mr. Davis briefly explained the vote of \$22,575 for the Mercer. In answer to questions as to whether changes could not be made in the direction of economy, Col. Gibson said one wing of the institution was practically closed. That was not a thing the House would go into mourning over. It was under consideration to remove the refuge at the Mercer to the Alexandria Home for Girls, but there were difficulties in the way. The vote was passed.

A vote of \$10,325 was given for the immigration agencies and service.

In connection with a vote of \$185,948 for hospitals and charities, Col. Matheson asked for particulars regarding the statement made in the press that Dr. Chamberlain had gone down to Ottawa in connection with some trouble in the hospital there, and threatened to cut off the grant unless the medical staff, with which the directors were at variance, were returned to duty.

The Attorney-General said the inspector had denied over his own signature the charges made. The grants to hospitals were conditional, and if the conditions were not carried out the inspector had not only power but had a duty to inform the managers that the grant would be withdrawn. Col. Gibson added that the trouble was between the governor of the hospital and the medical staff, the members of which resigned. In stating that no grant would be made if the institution was not properly equipped the inspector did no more than his duty. Mr. Whitney explained that the Opposition had not alleged that the inspector caused the trouble.

The House rose at 9.55.