

act might be introduced by the Government or by a private member dealing with this question. If the House were to arrive at any definite conclusion upon the propositions before them it would be better to have a resolution framed with a little more regard to the exact situation, so that it would express more clearly the desires of the House. Therefore he suggested that the resolution be withdrawn and introduced in some other form at the next session.

Mr. Whitney suggested that the House express itself upon the resolutions as they were without further debate.

Mr. Carscallen asserted that an intelligent vote could not be given upon the resolution as it is before the House; moreover, a vote in its favor would not mean anything.

Mr. Pattullo believed that further discussion would do good. He recognized the great divergences of opinion in the House, and that it would with the amendments before them be rather difficult for members to know how to vote. He also recognized that the matter is complicated by the action of some municipalities which hon. members represent, and which now have bills before the House to confirm their bonus by-laws.

At 6 o'clock the House adjourned.

After Recess.

After recess Mr. Pattullo continued the debate. The cry that he was taking away the rights of municipalities he characterized as mock heroics, and pointed out that he was only asking the House to adhere to and enforce the law which is now upon the books of the House. Respecting the interests of New Ontario, he asserted his desire to see that portion of the Province opened up and developed, but denied that the bonus system was essential to its development. Taking up the case of Toronto, to which reference had been made, he pointed out that that city had no special powers whatever in regard to aiding industries that are not enjoyed by other municipalities.

Against Protection.

Mr. Whitney said the greater portion of the hon. gentleman's speech had been a condemnation of the policy of his political friends for some years upon the bonus question. Personally he was opposed to the resolution. The Government had, he asserted, some years ago introduced legislation striking at the bonus system from political motives, and for the purpose of striking at the policy of protection in Canada. The law prohibiting bonusing had been broken immediately after it was passed, when a special act was passed in the case of Strathroy, and that bill had opened the door for all the other acts that came afterwards. He had noticed that the Town of Woodstock was not in accord with the views of the mover of the resolution.

Mr. Pattullo corrected Mr. Whitney's remarks by stating that he had in his desk a resolution passed by the Town Council of Woodstock approving of his resolutions, the only fault found with him being that he had not gone far enough.

Continuing, Mr. Whitney expressed regret that the Government had not adopted a definite policy and taken

action in the matter. He was personally in favor of the bonus system with all which it implied, and he was also in favor of it without any restriction, on the ground that the municipalities should be at liberty to act as they desired. He would never be a party to any legislation or expression of opinion to the effect that his fellow-citizens are not to be entrusted with the use of their own property as they saw fit. He also disapproved of any intention to prevent in the future any citizen from petitioning the Legislature as proposed by the amendment.

Mr. Gibson's Views.

Hon. Mr. Gibson thought the principle of unanimity should be present in the case of a bonus granted by the ratepayers. He admitted the strength of the contention that an industry would be a good thing for a town and would employ operatives, but, nevertheless, there ought to be a preponderance of sentiment when a bonus was proposed.

Mr. Whitney—Hear, hear.

Mr. Gibson—The hon. gentleman says "hear, hear," any yet he approves of an amendment which requires the approval of only a fraction of the ratepayers. The amendment only called for two-thirds of the vote cast, which might not be a fifth of the qualified vote. That was no safeguard or protection.

Mr. Carscallen, interrupting, said two-thirds of the total vote was called for by Dr. McKay's amendment, but on being corrected by the mover, said the hon. gentleman had misled the House.

Hon. Mr. Hardy called the Speaker's attention to the expression, and the latter expressed his condemnation of it. Mr. Speaker repeated his remarks made on a former occasion, that members were guilty of a breach of Parliamentary etiquette in addressing one another, and said such proceedings would no longer be allowed.

Hon. Mr. Gibson, continuing, expressed the opinion that the sentiment of the House was against saddling on the ratepayers of any municipality the liability for a bonus on a mere majority vote. It was not impossible to secure a two-thirds vote of the qualified ratepayers on money by-laws; such a provision would secure an undoubted expression of opinion before a by-law carried. The system of bonus-hunting was a vicious one, and could not be too strongly condemned. When all the bonus bills sought for this session were examined it would be seen that some of them were in grave violation of the principle laid down by the Legislature, and the safeguards provided by it. That violation should not be permitted, let the consideration be what it may.

What the Premier Said.

Hon. Mr. Hardy reminded the House of the position he had always taken up, which was that they should not enact a law that would prevent the granting of a bonus by a municipality under any and every circumstance. Where a municipality on account of special circumstances, fire being one, applied to the Legislature, it should be accorded the opportunity of making out a case, and, if proper, securing the right to grant a bonus. That had been his opinion in the past, and he held the same opinion still. He therefore thought