

James Bay, which would open up areas of pulpwood and give communication to the immense fisheries of the northern seas. Ontario had outgrown the old system of roadmaking under the statute labor system. The abolition of that system would be very proper, but it was a matter upon which the public

mind should be educated. Statute labor would still be useful in the newer townships, and it would, therefore, not do to suddenly abolish the system. New roads certainly were needed, and it might be a good thing if the Government would build five miles out of every fifteen, in order to encourage the municipalities. The development of cold storage Mr. Holmes was heartily in sympathy with, and he would like to see a Government grant equal to any which the municipalities might make to those counties which established a cold-storage system within their limits. Assistance such as he suggested depended, however, upon the finances of the Province being in a sufficiently healthy condition to permit of it being done. Mr. Holmes upheld the justice of the struggle being waged by Britain in South Africa, and predicted the time when Presidents Kruger and Steyn would be compelled to withdraw from public life, sadder and wiser men.

A Credit Appropriation.

A credit appropriation of \$320,000 to cover expenditures for the public service until the supplies are voted was introduced and put through committee.

The House then adjourned until Monday.

West Elgin Commission.

The commission to the Judges who are investigating the West Elgin election was laid on the table yesterday. It requires the Judges to inquire into and report upon the conduct of the returning officer, the deputy returning officers and poll clerks at and in connection with the said election.

Farmers Interested.

The result of the season's work among the Farmers' Institutes has been very satisfactory. Mr. Geo. C. Creelman, the Superintendent, who has just returned from a tour of the Province, reports that there has been a decided increase in meetings and attendance over the previous year. The season for holding meetings extends over December, January and February, and 26 speakers have been out. Every county has been reached, about 700 meetings being held, with an attendance of 125,000. The delegates, who are now returning, report better methods of cultivation among the farmers, together with more scientific knowledge underlying their occupation.

Legislation by Members.

Mr. Hoyle will on Monday introduce a bill to amend the local courts act, to provide that no junior Judge shall be appointed for Ontario County.

One of the amendments to the municipal act will be proposed by Mr. Colquhoun or Mr. Carscallen, on behalf of the City of Hamilton. It will provide for an extension of the term of office of municipal representatives, the Mayoralty term to two years, and the Aldermanic to as high as three years.

Government Measures.

Last night notice was given of a number of important Government measures, and the indications are that no time will be lost in introducing them. Five of these bills are in the Premier's name. Three of them relate to the improvement of highways, the drainage of swamp lands, and cold-storage stations in rural districts. The fourth bill is to amend the revenue act of the Province, and the fifth deals with the improvement of the succession duties act. Hon. E. J. Davis gives notice of a bill to amend the act to preserve the forests from destruction by fire; also a bill to give effect to the regulations for the manufacture of pulp and other wood cut on Crown lands. The Attorney-General will bring in a bill dealing with County Courts, and a second measure to give effect to the recommendations of the Game Wardens who recently revised the game protection act. Hon. Mr. Dryden has in preparation a bill relating to the destruction of insects injurious to fruit trees. This bill embodies certain recommendations of the fruit-growers who recently waited on the Government.

Questions to be Put.

Mr. Whitney will ask the Government whether Hon. J. T. Garrow is still a member of the Cabinet, and, if not, when his connection with it ceased.

Messrs. Marter and Barr are anxious for information regarding the price realized for binder twine manufactured at the Central Prison in 1898 and 1899.

The members of the Press Gallery met yesterday afternoon and organized for the session. The following officers were elected:—President, Mr. W. McC. Davidson, The Star; Vice-President, Mr. H. C. Charlesworth, The Mail and Empire; Secretary, Mr. M. O. Hammond, The Globe; Executive Committee, Messrs. D. Kerr, The News; Alf. Rubbra, The World; Robt. English, The Telegram; W. H. Dickson, The Globe.

Among the petitions presented were the following:—

Town Council of Collingwood, asking power to grant aid to the steel ship-building yards—Mr. Duff. From Daventry Methodist Church for an act authorizing the removal of the remains of bodies and monuments from burial ground—Mr. Hill. From the Town Council of Durham, to legalize a by-law in aid of the Durham Furniture Company—Mr. Jamieson. From the Town Council of Goderich, to grant \$10,000 to the Kensington Furniture Company—Mr. Hislop.

House adjourned to
Monday Feb. 19th at
3 P.M.