

come from many years. There were no savings in 1898. The amount referred to was bank balances taken from the preceding years.

Premier Ross—I do not know whether I said there was a surplus in 1898 or not. There is at this moment between the previous year or years and the savings of 1899 a balance of \$800,000, which I can go and use for the benefit of the country. (Ministerial applause.)

Mr. Clarke.

Mr. Clarke (West Northumberland) spoke for a few minutes before adjournment. He asked what the Opposition would have done had they had to deal with the West Elgin case. What was their history? The history of their party as regards corruption was worse than the Liberals'. They had in his own riding taken fifty Liberal ballots from the sacred ballot-box and inserted in place thereof 50 of the other side.

The present Premier, Mr. Clarke said, the Liberals had known for years to be capable of filling that position. Regarding finances, Mr. Clarke said the Government's care for the dependent of the Province would alone be worth millions of a debt to have it properly done. As for surpluses, he did not believe they were any use to the Province. That was not what Governments were created for. At this point, there not being a quorum, Mr. Clarke moved the adjournment of the debate.

Recess Until Tuesday.

Mr. Whitney asked that, in consideration of the inconvenience it would cause members who lived at a distance to return in time for Monday afternoon, the debate be adjourned until Tuesday.

The Premier agreed to the proposition, and moved that as there was no business for Monday the House take a recess until Tuesday also. The motion carried.

The House adjourned at 5.05.

Government Measures.

The Attorney-General gives notice of bills to amend the election act, to amend the loan corporations act, to amend the act respecting the Law Society of Ontario, and to amend the act respecting controverted elections.

Mr. Whitney's Medal.

Mr. J. P. Whitney, leader of the Opposition, yesterday morning received a medal for his services in the Fenian raid of '66. Mr. Whitney was Sergeant-Major of the Cornwall Battalion during the campaign. The regiment consisted of three companies from Montreal and three from Cornwall. Mr. Whitney's claim to rank as a veteran is now universally conceded.

Nursery Stock.

Preparations are now being made by the Department of Agriculture for the carrying out of the act passed last session, requiring that all nursery stock shall be fumigated before being offered for sale in this Province. Professor Lohead of the Ontario Agricultural College has been appointed by the Minister of Agriculture as inspector of this work, and circulars are now being distributed, giving full instructions to

nurserymen as to the construction of fumigation houses and methods of carrying out the work. It will be necessary for every nurseryman to have a building for this purpose. A full list of nurserymen in the Province is being printed in a pamphlet now being issued by the department. It will be remembered that this legislation and also that of the Dominion, prohibiting the importation of nursery stock into Canada, are the outcome of the spread of the San Jose scale, it being hoped that by means of this legislation this insect, as well as others, will be very materially checked. In this connection it may be mentioned that a bill will be presented at this session of the Legislature in which provision is being made for the destruction of other insects, including the codling moth.

Abolishing Statute Labor.

Sentiment in favor of the abolition of statute labor is rapidly spreading throughout the Province. There are now no less than thirty-three townships in Ontario who have decided to take the step, or have already carried it out. The latest to decide are the Townships of Osborne, in Huron County, Blanchard, in Perth, and Orillia, in Simcoe. These were visited this week by Mr. A. W. Campbell, Provincial Road Inspector. At the meetings held it was unanimously decided to commute the statute labor at 75 cents per day and to adopt the methods of road-making recommended by Mr. Campbell.

Notes.

It is understood that Hon. Richard Harcourt will take Hon. J. M. Gibson's place as Chairman of the Private Bills Committee, that Hon. E. J. Davis will replace Hon. A. S. Hardy as Chairman of the Municipal Committee, and that Mr. Graham will be Chairman of the Printing Committee.

Mr. D. R. McLean of the firm of McLean & McCallum, and formerly of Guelph, has been appointed Clerk of the Municipal Committee in place of Mr. Irwin.