

Historical Society Grant.

Mr. Andrew Pattullo, M.P.P., introduced a deputation representing the Ontario Historical Society to the Government yesterday afternoon. Mr. J. H. Coyne, St. Thomas, President; Chancellor Burwash of Victoria University, and Miss FitzGibbon, on behalf of the deputation, asked for an increase in the Government grant from \$500 to \$1,000, chiefly to assist in the publication of historical documents, including some early letters in connection with the Talbot settlement.

Inspection of Boilers.

The special committee appointed to consider Mr. Carscallen's bill providing for the inspection of boilers and the licensing of stationary engineers met yesterday morning in the reception room. Mr. F. G. Mitchell of the London Supply Company was examined respecting the necessity for such a bill and gave very strong evidence in its favor. The committee adjourned until 2 o'clock on Wednesday.

Grand River Floods.

A deputation from the City of Brantford, forty strong, and including Mayor Cockshutt, Mr. Fisher, Superintendent of the T. H. & B., and members of the City Council and Board of Trade, held an interview with the Premier yesterday morning. The deputation were accompanied by Messrs. Preston, Burt and Carscallen, M.P.P.'s, and asked for Government assistance toward preventing damage from floods on the Grand River. The appointment of a commission to report on the causes of the floods was also urged. Mr. Preston opened the subject, and was followed in turn by D. Burt, M.P.P., Mr. Carscallen, M.P.P., Mayor Cockshutt, City Treasurer Bunnell, City Engineer Jones, Secretary W. E. H. Massey, C. H. Waterous, S. S. Hamilton and others. It was shown that Brantford has already expended fully \$100,000 in flood prevention measures, and another large outlay is now contemplated. The Premier listened most attentively to the discussion. He intimated that a fair case for the appointment of a commission of expert engineers had been made out, and promised careful consideration of the entire question.

The Government will most likely appoint a committee of capable engineers to inquire into the question of the damage resulting from floods.

Treatment of Inebriates.

Dr. Rosebrough, Mr. Hamilton Casels and several medical members of the Legislature waited on the Government to again urge that measures be taken for the treatment of inebriates. They suggested the probation system for all cases of drunkenness, with a system of fines, imprisonment for confirmed drunkards and a grant to hospitals for the treatment of dipsomaniacs.

Beet Sugar Bounties.

Messrs. Edward Gurney, Hugh Blain and Edgar A. Wills, representing the Board of Trade, waited on the Government this morning and urged the reso-

lution passed by the board last Friday, recommending that the Province spend not less than \$100,000 per annum for five years on beet sugar bounties, beginning with one cent per pound and ending with 1-2 a cent in the fifth year. A careful consideration of the matter was promised.

Anti-vaccinationists.

A deputation of anti-vaccinationists pressed for the repeal of the provisions in the law requiring the compulsory vaccination of children before entering the public schools. Those present were Dr. Sparrow, Dr. Becker, Dr. Evans, Dr. Hardy, Dr. E. K. Richardson, Miss Eleanor Lennox, M.D., J. D. Nasmith and A. Ray. Drs. Sparrow, Becker and Lennox were the speakers and took the ground that the question of vaccination should be viewed from a scientific standpoint. It was not, they contended, a preventive for smallpox, but frequently led to the persons treated being inoculated by loathsome diseases. The Premier asked to be furnished with further information on the subject.

London Hospital Infirmary.

The Provincial Secretary is desirous of building and equipping the infirmary to be established in connection with the London Asylum, in accordance with the most modern principles, and Dr. Buck, Superintendent of the asylum, and Mr. Heaks, architect of the Ontario Public Works Department, will shortly make a tour of hospitals in the United States for the purpose of gathering the necessary data.

Municipal Electric Plants.

There was a battle royal in the Municipal Committee yesterday over the three bills amending the Conmee bill, which provides that municipal corporations must buy out existing plants before they can engage in electric light, gas and waterworks enterprises. Bills in amendment were submitted by Mr. Graham, Mr. Foy and Dr. Bridgland.

Mr. Graham explained that he believed in the principle of the Conmee bill, but wanted to make it more workable. His bill provided, among other things, that debentures might be issued in equal annual instalments; that the corporation should have been supplying electric light or gas within the year previous to the date on which the municipality began proceedings; that there should be only one arbitrator instead of three, as provided in the Conmee bill; that the arbitrator should have power to award damages to a company for that part of its works which the corporation did not take over; that the cost of the arbitration be limited, and that the municipality be given three months in which to accept or reject an offer or award.

City Solicitor Caswell appeared in support of Mr. Foy's bill, the tenth clause of which practically exempted Toronto from the provision of the Conmee bill.

Mr. O'Brien, solicitor for the Electric Light Company, said the Foy bill was apparently a deliberate attempt to destroy the Toronto Electric Light Company or to make its business unprofitable to its shareholders.