

He desired to ask if the Premier was willing to say whether the probabilities were that there would be another session of the House. The removal of any uncertainty one way or the other might have a perceptible effect on the length of the session and the nature of the proceedings. There had been a great many contradictory rumors regarding the matter. Gentlemen of character and standing, exceedingly close to his hon. friend the Premier, had not hesitated to say, in private conversation, that there would not be another session. These conversations were mere rumors, of course. The predecessor of his hon. friend in 1897 had declared, without binding himself to the course of action he then outlined, that he did not expect there would be a dissolution of the House within a certain time. He (Mr. Whitney) merely threw out the suggestion, and had no right to complain, and would not do so, if the Premier did not desire to reply. He simply desired to give him an opportunity of relieving the public mind on the question and making smooth the way of the session.

No Election This Year.

The Premier answered:—"I presume that my hon. friend desires to arrange, if there is to be no general election at once, for a brief and easy passage for the Government during the next 40 or 50 days the House may be in session. We have no present intention of going to the country until another session of the House has been held. I cannot absolutely bind myself; no Minister would do that; my predecessor did not. But I am speaking without any reservation when I say that Parliament will probably run its full term. I do not know that it is necessary that we should say anything further. If it is going to be a brief and easy session, well and good. I suppose that when we meet again we shall have to make up for the kindness our friends of the Opposition may show to us. But we shall be in the running on the home stretch, and first at the winning post, too." (Government applause.)

Mr. Carscallen's Bill.

Mr. Carscallen introduced a bill respecting building societies and loan corporations, the object of which is to compel such companies to publish a statement of unclaimed balances in their possession prior to three years from date.

The House adjourned at 3.50.

Notices of Motion.

The following notices of motion were given:—

Mr. Taylor—Bill to amend the municipal act.

Mr. Conmee—Bill to amend the mechanics' lien act.

Mr. Ross—An act to amend the supplementary revenue act.

Dr. Jessop (Lincoln) wants a return showing the results of the inspection of the fruit trees in Lincoln County in connection with the San Jose scale.

Petitions For Law Reform.

Several important petitions were laid on the table. The County Councils of Essex and Bruce want the powers of Division Courts extended. The Council of Bruce asks for the abolition of grand juries. Elgin County wants a reduction in the cost of jury service. Mr. Crawford presented a petition from the City of Toronto asking authority to apply technical school debentures to the amount of \$75,000 to the furnishing of the institution. A variety from the usual was lent by a petition from Wellington County Council praying that the Government do not grant aid to public highways.

Nipissing's Needs.

Hon. Mr. Latchford was waited on yesterday afternoon by two deputations from Nipissing. Messrs. John Armstrong and Angus McKelvey of Thornloe asked for \$10,000 to be expended on colonization roads in the Temiscaming district and for assistance in building a pontoon bridge over the Blanche River in the same neighborhood. Mr. Latchford informed the deputation that the estimates contain \$7,000 for roads. He will have an engineer report on the bridge problem. Dr. Irwin, Reeve of the Townships of Dunnett and Ratter, and Alex. Hamilton, lumberman, both of Warren, asked for assistance for the building of a lock-up at Warren.

Notes.

The demand for land in the Temiscaming country continues unabated and it is probable that four or five more townships will be opened for settlement this spring, in addition to the seven now available.

There are now in existence four charters for railways into Nipissing district, of which Mackenzie & Mann are understood to control three, which

all expire July 1st next. These are the lines projected northward respectively from Haliburton, North Bay and Sudbury. The fourth is the Toronto & Hudson Bay, in the hands of Mr. John Shaw, Mr. W. R. Brock and others.

The Bureau of Mines is in receipt of the following inquiries:—From the Grasselli Chemical Company, Cleveland, Ohio, for supplies of pyrites and baryta, and from Messrs. Stein & Boericke, Primos, Delaware County, Pennsylvania, for molybdenite. Producers of these minerals might find it advantageous to communicate with the above parties.

WANT AID FOR RAILWAY.

Premier Ross Assures a Temiscaming Deputation That Something Will be Done This Year.

A large deputation, representative of the north and of Toronto's business interests, waited on Premier Ross and Hon. E. J. Davis, Commissioner of Crown Lands, yesterday morning, and asked that assistance be given toward the construction of a railway from