

tion time. There was no surety, no bond, and yet the public money went out on the eve of an election.

Mr. Michaud (West Nipissing) said he had made several requests for the money to be sent. It had had no effect on the vote in that section, as he had got only six votes there.

Mr. Whitney said a well-understood rule of the department had been deliberately and intentionally broken by the Minister's secretary. The Premier differed from his predecessors. He said, "What are you going to do about it? You cannot prove it?" It was not the only thing they had said could not be proved, nor the only thing they had done their best to prevent being proved. The Commissioner of Public Works had said if an Opposition member would publicly declare that he would support the Government he would receive good treatment. All those things fitted in together.

The Premier's Hot Shot.

Mr. Ross said that what he had said was that it could not be proved that there was any corrupt bargain. His hon. friend knew that, if he would only be fair. Dr. Nesbitt had suggested that there was a corrupt bargain. It was merely a suspicion. "I said he could not prove there was a corrupt bargain. He cannot prove it now. This mode of conducting political warfare is most inimical to respectable and reputable politics. Cannot we do anything in the world without being suspected of sinister motives? Are we to assume that every man who discharges political duty has a corrupt motive? I would repudiate any political party, headed even by a Gladstone or a John the Baptist, who proposed that no man could engage in public transactions without his motive being impugned. It drags politics into the mire, and I pity the miserable soul of the man, whether in the House or out of it, who is seeking in a snivelling, sneering, in a critical way, his own hands not being too clean sometimes— (Loud applause.)

Mr. Whitney—I would like to say one word in reply—

Mr. Ross—I had no reference to my hon. friend.

Mr. Whitney said the Premier knew perfectly well Dr. Nesbitt had said if there was not a corrupt bargain there was a corrupt intention.

"My Hands Are Clean."

Dr. Nesbitt—I said there was no doubt there were corrupt intentions, for when the Minister sends letters to be delivered by the son of the Crown lands agent he asks him to support the Ross Government. When he says anything about my hands, there has never been a charge proved against me, and this is no time for him to say my hands are not clean, when he says that a letter addressed to him by Mr. Gamey did not pass through his hands.

Mr. W. R. Smyth (Algoma) said he defied anyone to state where there was one Conservative in Algoma employed as road boss, and 99 per cent. of the men employed on the roads were Reformers, or leaned to the Government.

Mr. James Conmee (Port Arthur) said the instruction given to road foremen was to employ settlers, without respect to their politics. That was done in his district, at any rate.

Mr. Milton Carr said his observation in 27 years in Parry Sound was that the money was spent somewhere about the 20th of May each year— (Opposition laughter)—between the 25th of May and the 15th of June.

Mr. J. H. Carnegie (West Victoria) said a grant had been sent to his riding in October, 1900, the Dominion election being in November, and was not spent till a year later.

The motion was carried.

Fishing Leases Again.

Mr. J. S. Hendrie moved for an order for a return of correspondence between the Department of Public Works and any applicants for fishing rights or concessions for commercial purposes in Lakes Nepigon, Manitou and other lakes in Ontario since May 1, 1902, together with copies of all agreements for fishing rights or fishing concessions since said date.

Mr. Hendrie said Lake Nepigon was the source of supply for the best trout fishing in the whole world. It was a

matter for serious consideration whether it was a proper policy for the Government to adopt. The fishing in our lakes was a great attraction, which brought large sums of money to Canada, and it would be a serious injury to interfere with their privileges.

Mr. Latchford, replying, said no country in the world was more richly endowed with sporting fish than Ontario, and it annually attracted thousands of Americans who spent large sums of money. The Lake Nepigon license would not interfere with the anglers' or the settlers' rights in any way, and the agreement would secure a supply of fish in districts which were not otherwise served. Perhaps the Canada Fish Company's capital of \$1,000,000 contained some water, but a fish company would perhaps need more water than any other company. (Laughter.) The Government safeguarded the leases with strong restrictions, which would yield a good rental and not interfere with the sporting fish in any way.

Mr. Whitney contended that the agreements should have been made public before signed, or submitted to the Legislature.

Mr. R. R. Gamey (Manitoulin) asked a number of questions respecting the terms of the Lake Manitou lease, and said that if known they would probably be approved. He was assured in general terms by Mr. Latchford that the settlers' and anglers' rights were protected, and advised to give a notice in order that the questions might be more fully answered.

After some further discussion the motion passed.

A number of public bills were given their second reading formally, as follows:—Mr. Burt—To amend the municipal act. Mr. Beck—To amend the street railway act. Mr. Beck—To amend the municipal act. Mr. Dickenson's bill to amend the law respecting gas and water companies was declared lost on divisions, and his bill to amend the act respecting dower was withdrawn.

The House adjourned at 6.15 p.m.

Notices of Motion.

Mr. Ross gives notice of a bill to amend the act respecting land grant to the Manitoulin & North Shore Railway Co.

Dr. Nesbitt will move for a return of correspondence, papers, time sheets, pay rolls, or other documents, which were directly or indirectly appertaining to the various road grants and work done on the road between or about Markstay and Warren.

Cavan Township Improvements.

A deputation consisting of Messrs. C. McNeill, Reeve; Geo. Berry and T. A. Kelley, Councillors, and W. H. Lough, land owner, Cavan Township, waited on Premier Ross yesterday, and asked for assistance towards drainage and roads through a 3,000-acre tract of bog or swamp in the north part of the township.

Private Bills Attended to.

The Private Bills Committee dealt with the bill respecting the Village of Niagara Falls, and decided to suggest the appointment of a commission by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council to arrange the terms upon which the two municipalities of Niagara Falls village and town should amalgamate. The suggestion was accepted and the bill will be redrafted. Mr. Pattullo suggested that in order to prevent confusion from similarity of names, the new municipality should be called Niagara-at-the-Falls.

The committee passed a bill permitting the Township of Machar to exempt grist and woollen mills from taxation. A bill confirming a by-law of the Township of Bertie to fix the assessment of the Canadian Shipbuilding Company at \$300,000 for a period of twenty years was passed.

An amendment was made in the bill respecting the taking over of the Balm Beach Park by the Town of East Toronto by striking out the last clause, which gave the municipality permission to pass a by-law authorizing its Treasurer to levy and collect taxes, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any general act. The Chairman, Hon. Mr. Harcourt, said that the clause

would have to be brought in as a separate bill.

REDUCED TO SEVEN MILES

LIMITING THE SPEED OF AUTOMOBILES.

Government Not Desirous of Being Taxed by Municipalities—Colonel Gibson Says the Provincial Buildings Are a Credit to the City.

The Municipal Committee of the Legislature yesterday accepted one section out of the five comprising Mr. Pettypiece's bill amending the act permitting municipalities to use voting machines. The clause passed provides that voting machines be kept locked and sealed for thirty days after election. A considerable discussion ensued on Mr. T. H. Preston's bill regulating the speed of automobiles. At the urgent request of Mr. Henry Carscallen the question of speed was reopened. He held that the speed in the cities should be limited to six miles an hour. Mr. Preston said, after perusal of United States laws, he found ten miles an hour was the lowest speed limit for cities, with one exception. He also held they were in more absolute control than a horse. An amendment proposed by Mr. Carscallen that the speed limit in cities, towns and incorporated villages be restricted to seven miles an hour, was agreed to, and the bill was passed without further amendment.

A lengthy discussion resulted upon Mr. T. H. Preston's bill to amend the municipal act. The clause objected to provides that in cases of necessary local improvement works the Council may by by-law provide that the cost be paid by the lands benefited, in proportion to benefit, or according to a frontage tax. The question of Government responsibility for a share of the cost was discussed. Assessment Commissioner Fleming claimed that Toronto was not properly treated by the Government on the local improvement question. The Government should share the cost of local improvements benefiting property they held for sale.

Col. Gibson said that a place where a Government building existed was a favored place, and the Government did not propose to reverse its policy and allow municipalities to tax them. If we do consent to pay a local improvement we want to know if the city will do the reasonably decent thing with us with respect to Government House, the Normal School, etc., said Col. Gibson. The bill was largely amended, and as passed gave wider powers to municipal auditors and also gives Councils power to prohibit spitting in public places.

Mr. Ross' bill was agreed to. It prevents a municipal Councillor from being disqualified by reason of any exemption from taxation based on a contract or agreement with the municipal Council.