

by a vote of 33 to 37, and the motion carried on the same vote.

#### A Temporary Increase to \$1,000.

The House went into supply on the supplementary estimates.

The Premier announced that under the head of the indemnity increase, it was not intended that this should be a permanent indemnity. The sum of \$800 was, to his mind, a reasonable indemnity, having regard to the circumstances. Next year they would, perhaps, be able to fix the indemnity at \$800. The appropriation of \$1,000 for the present would not be considered excessive, in consideration of the length of the session.

Mr. Whitney said that he agreed with the increase on general principles, and he thought that the sum of \$1,000 would be a proper indemnity in future years.

The Premier pointed to the provision of \$1,500 for a Provincial archivist, a new official, to take charge of the early historical records of the Province. The gentleman to whom he thought the appointment would go was Mr. Alex. Fraser, formerly connected for years with The Toronto Mail, and afterwards with several other publications. Mr. Fraser was a graduate of the Glasgow University, and a man eminently fitted for the work.

Mr. Whitney agreed with the appointment on general principles, and believed Mr. Fraser was well fitted for the position.

#### Supplies All Passed.

The supplementary estimates were concurred in without further discussion by the committee.

The House proceeded to concur in three items which had stood over from the main estimates. The only amendment was one by Mr. Duff (West Simcoe) to reduce the estimates by \$4,400, the amount granted for the Pioneer Dairy Farm and the Western Dairy School.

The House went into Committee of Ways and Means, after which the Premier's formal supply bill was introduced and passed through all its readings.

Mr. Ross then proceeded toward the door to meet the Lieutenant-Governor.

Mr. Smyth (Algoma) asked if it was intended to grant any subsidy to the Bruce Mines & Algoma Railway.

"Not now," replied the Premier, as he paused half way down the corridor.

The mace was whisked hurriedly away, while the Attorney-General was informing Mr. St. John that Mr. Aemilius Irving, K.C., had been sent to investigate reported irregularities in North Grey, and that he had reported verbally and presented certain facts and statutory declarations.

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor then entered at 1.30, and assented to the list of bills passed during the session. The House adjourned for half an hour for lunch.

#### Clearing the Paper.

When the House resumed a few minutes was spent in clearing the order paper of a number of comparatively unimportant questions, some of which stood until next week.

Mr. Ross informed Mr. Lucas that the ballot boxes and papers in connection with the election in North Grey on May 29th, 1902, had not yet been burned, under the provisions of the statute.

Mr. T. H. Preston (Brant) secured an order for a return—similar to that ordered by the British House of Commons on the 25th day of June, 1902, of reproductive undertakings operated by municipal boroughs in Great Britain—respecting waterworks, electric lighting plants, gas works, and other public utilities operated by municipalities in the Province of Ontario, also of the rates charged the consumers in the various municipalities of the Province for water, gas and electric lighting.

#### Interprovincial Resolutions.

Mr. Ross then moved concurrence in the resolutions passed at the interprovincial conference at Quebec in December, 1902. He referred to the increase in revenue in the Dominion of fourfold since confederation, while the subsidies to the Provinces had remain-

ed stationary—quite stationary so far as Ontario and Quebec were concerned. At confederation the Provinces received 34 per cent. of the Dominion revenue, and now only 11 per cent. of the money collected from the people. There should be an increase in the subsidy. If we were paid by the increase of population, the increase in our subsidy would be \$700,000 or \$800,000. There had been large increases in expenditures in the Province, rendered necessary by the circumstances. It might be said we should cut down expenditures. That was only possible to a very slight extent, while our revenues could not be increased much.

Mr. Foy—Get better prices for your timber limits.

#### Expenditures Increased.

Mr. Ross—Yes, get a few thousand more, perhaps. The City of Toronto, Mr. Ross went on to say, had increased its expenditure tenfold in 32 years. In 1871 it was \$533,587; in 1900 it was \$5,871,258. The Dominion spent in 1867 \$13,000,000, and last year \$50,000,000. The same applied to Great Britain, and to the States of the Union. If their request that the subsidy be based on each decennial census were granted, the subsidy would be increased this year by \$749,000. On this basis the total subsidies paid by the Dominion would be a little over \$2,500,000, not a large sum for such a revenue as the Dominion received. We now taxed ourselves as a Province for three times the amount of the subsidy we received, and he contended the disparity between that and the subsidy should not be so large. We consumed more dutiable goods per head than the eastern Provinces. Wouldn't it be better to receive something of what we pay into the Dominion Treasury than to pay in and not receive anything? Eighty cents a head was more comfortable in 1867 than a dollar a head would be now. Notwithstanding all that, we received the same subsidy as in 1867. He therefore asked the House to concur in the resolutions, as they had been concurred in already by the eastern Provinces.

#### Mr. Whitney's Criticisms.

Mr. Whitney said that there was no doubt that our requirements were relatively larger than they were at confederation, but that was no reason why the basis of Provincial subsidies should be altered. The first question was whether the settlement of 1867 was supposed to be a permanent one, and whether it had been so accepted. It had not been so accepted, and it had been departed from on many occasions. It made very little difference whether one agreed to periodical changes in the subsidies or not. He took objection to the provision of the resolutions whereby the increases in the subsidies were to stop as soon as the population of Ontario reached 2,500,000. Mr. Whitney quoted a number of statistics showing that Ontario received only 1-6 of the total railway subsidies, whereas we paid 1-2 of that total to the Dominion. Ontario was, beyond a doubt, being treated unfairly. Yet, although the interests of every other Province were carefully urged by their representatives, Ontario's Premier did not do so. Perhaps he had been too busy. He was not going to accuse the Premier of neglecting the interests of the Province. The stubborn fact, however, was that by his own admission he had done so.

Speaking of our grants to railways as one of the important causes of the increase in Ontario's expenses, Mr. Whitney said that we gave \$22,000,000 for railways and spent \$2,500,000 on the Temiskaming Railway. But the Dominion Government had given no aid to the Temiskaming road, although we were taxed at both ends and contributed to the funds for Dominion subsidies to other Provinces.

The question was not whether it was wise or unwise to change the conditions introduced at confederation. They had been changed, and the matter to be discussed was whether Ontario should obtain her just share under any change.

Mr. Whitney moved in amendment that the following words be added to

the motion:—"But this House regrets that the position of the Province of Ontario with reference to the moneys expended on railway construction and railway subsidies, by the Parliament of Canada, the proportion thereof received by her, the proportion of Dominion taxes paid by her, and her just claims on any rearrangement of the Federal subsidies to the Provinces, were not put forward by the First Minister of Ontario at the interprovincial conference, and pressed by him upon the attention of the Dominion Government."

#### No Interests Neglected.

Mr. Ross, replying, pointed out that it was essential for all the Provinces to agree upon a course. The Maritime Provinces had had special claims to press, but were obliged at first not to press them, for the sake of presenting a uniform set of claims. The Maritime representatives had presented their special claims subsequently, and he believed they had not been entertained. We had a number of special claims, and were presenting them from time to time. The major claims were presented, and, that having been done, they were justified in having refrained from pressing the smaller claims, which might have jeopardized the larger ones.

Mr. Foy spoke briefly, and the motion was then carried on the same division as upon the previous vote.

#### Next Week's Procedure.

Mr. Ross explained the procedure for next week. The House would meet, he said, on Tuesday at 3 o'clock, and then, after any necessary uncontentious business had been attended to, on Wednesday morning he would move that the report of the Gamey commissioners be approved, and the debate would continue from day to day. The House would sit each day until 10 or 11 o'clock at night, but not later, and some time between Tuesday and Friday, they would be able to form a definite conclusion as to when the House should be prorogued.

Mr. Whitney asked whether the writs for bye-elections were to be issued to-day.

Mr. Ross replied, hardly to-day. He thought that general consent had been given to their not being issued until after the Gamey investigation. That investigation was practically not yet concluded, and it would not be advisable to issue the writs until it was.

Mr. Whitney assented to this view, and the House adjourned at 4.20 o'clock, until 3 o'clock Tuesday afternoon next.

#### Bills Assented to.

The following is the list of bills assented to:—

Respecting the Town of Listowel.

Respecting the Sarnia Street Railway Company.

Respecting the Ontario & Sault Ste. Marie Railway Company.

Respecting the town of Whitby.

To enable the city of St. Thomas to issue debentures to redeem others now outstanding.

Respecting the township of York.

To incorporate the Belleville & Point Ann Railway Company.

Respecting the town of Peterboro'.

To confirm by-law No. 455 of the city of Guelph, and for other purpose.

Respecting the city of Toronto.

To incorporate the Stratford Radial Railway Company.

Respecting the assessment of the property of James Playfair, in the town of Midland.

Respecting the assessment of Chew Bros. in the town of Midland.

To amend the act incorporating the Huron, Bruce & Grey Electric Railway Company.

Respecting the town of Fort William.

To incorporate the Embro Radial Railway Company.

To confirm a certain by-law and agreement of the town of Niagara Falls.

To incorporate the London, Parkhill & Grand Bend Electric Railway Company.

Respecting the St. Thomas Street