

GIVES DEFENCE OF CONSTRUCTION

Inspector of Asylums Explains Details of Ontario Reform- atory Building

Some surprise was caused in the Public Accounts Committee of the Legislature yesterday when Mr. Sam Carter of South Wellington said he understood foundations at the Ontario Reformatory, Guelph, had been covered up and made into lawns, the buildings never having been completed. The discussion arose when the Deputy Minister of Works, R. P. Fairburn, was giving evidence as to the account of John M. Lyle for \$20,880.26 for balance due on account of commission for architectural duties at the Ontario Reformatory. Mr. Fairburn said this was the balance of the account, the total being \$49,737, which was for services rendered over a period of five years. The witness said the payment was at the rate of 5 per cent. on the actual cost of \$717,716, and on an estimated cost of the prison labor used and on an estimate of the value of materials found on the site. The prison labor was estimated at \$1.25 a day.

Mr. W. W. Dunlop, Inspector of Asylums, said that the buildings were constructed on the block plan. "I am positive no foundations have been covered up with lawns, except tunnels radiating from the Administration building to the workshops," said Mr. Dunlop. "Every foundation constructed has a building on top of it." He said one concrete foundation about two or three feet deep had been put in for a steel grill, and this had been built for the purpose of an exercising yard. Mr. Carter accepted Mr. Dunlop's statement.

In answer to Mr. Sam Clarke, Mr. Dunlop said that last year there was an average of 187 men at Burwash Farm. If a fair valuation is put on the prison labor used there, the farm is self-sustaining.