

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

Notes of Proceedings in the Local Parliament. RAISING THE REVENUE.

Hon Mr. Harcourt's scheme for the raising of the revenues consists of two measures, one a bill respecting breweries, distilleries and liquor licenses, the other known broadly as an act to supplement the revenues of the province. The amount which these measures will draw to the Provincial Treasury is something like \$300,000, a hundred thousand from the liquor people, the other two hundred thousand borne by corporations not notorious for their poverty.

Wholesale licenses in 1884 stood at the respectable figure of \$150. They were raised \$225 and later to \$250. Tavern licenses in large cities in turn were \$100, \$160 and \$250. In towns, \$80, \$100, \$150; villages, \$60, \$80; \$120; townships, \$60, \$72, \$87. The municipalities may go on increasing license fees if they choose. The increases to be gathered in under the auspices of Richard Harcourt are for the needs of the Ontario Government alone. No right which the municipalities have exercised is taken away.

In cities with a population of over 150,000 the wholesale license fee shall be increased by \$200. In cities between 40,000 and 100,000, there are four of them, the increase is \$150, and in other cities, seven in all, an increase of \$100. For tavern and shop licenses in cities of 150,000 and up the price is just \$150 higher than before, in cities between 40 and 150 thousand \$100 extra, and in all other cities \$100 is added to the original sum. Three railway saloons are each to pay additional license fees of \$150 each.

All told, Ontario has 67 breweries and 8 distilleries. Thirty-six of smaller concerns are to be exempt, while the remaining 39 contribute according to the amount of their investment. The breweries will pay from \$160 to \$1,000, the distilleries, two small, four medium, and two very large, from \$750 to \$4,000 extra. If Harcourt's calculations are anywhere near the mark the total revenue from distillers will be \$24,000 from brewers, \$16,000; from other licensees \$65,000, a total of \$110,000.

The license schedule divides the license holders into three classes. 1 over 150,000, 2. between 40 and 150 thousand, 3. under 40,000. Here is the schedule:

	Wholesale.	Present Proposed fees	Proposed fees
First-class	\$250	\$450	
Second class	250	400	
Third-class	250	350	
Tavern and Shop.			
First-class	\$150	\$300	
Second-class	150	250	
Third-class	150	200	
Brewers.			
Under \$10,000	\$250	\$250	
" 20,000	250	400	
" 40,000	250	500	
" 75,000	250	750	
" 100,000	250	1,000	
Over 100,000	250	1,500	
Distillers.			
\$50,000 and less	\$250	\$1,000	
100,000 and less	250	3,000	
150,000 and less	250	5,000	
Over \$150,000	250	5,000	

The means by which the Government proposes to add \$200,000 to its revenues appear in the following schedule:

MINING LAW CHANGES.

James Connem, M.P.P., while avowing Ontario's mining laws the best in the world, has a pair of improvements to suggest. He has incorporated these in a bill which the Legislature will soon be asked to consider. As the law stands, mining lands may be bought for \$1 an acre or rented for 25 cents an acre. This 25 cents rental Mr. Connem believes too high. The present law also makes certain inducements to miners making discoveries 10 miles from any mine already in operation. The bill lessens this danger.

TO TEACH AGRICULTURE.

The Minister of Education moved the second reading of his bill to improve the Schools Act.

Speaking on the subject of agricultural instruction which was provided for in this bill, he said that it was the intention of the Government in time to drop some other subject and make agricultural instruction compulsory.

They had been trying to prepare teachers in agriculture by teaching it in the Normal school; they had also secured a textbook which unfortunately proved too technical. The new Act was proposed as a lever in the direction of wider instruction, and to encourage teachers to inform themselves. Travelling lecturers in agriculture would be appointed to cover a group of schools and impart scientific knowledge of the subject.

He hoped that this would have the effect of keeping the boys at school. At present boys left school at 13 or 14. If they could be retained a year or two longer they would gain in knowledge to a vast extent.

He wanted to try the experiment of bringing children to school in outports in Algoma and the Island of Manitoulin, a scheme which had been tried with success in certain parts of the United States where the distances were long.

It was econ-

omical, since it prevented the migration of schools where the classes were not large enough to warrant it.

It was terrible to think of little children in Algoma walking three or four miles to school through the deep snow and in the biting cold. He therefore proposed to appoint a commission to look into the best means of carrying out the scheme.

Commenting editorially upon the foregoing, "rather startling statement," the Times says: "It is pretty clear that Sir Michael Hicks-Beach (Chancellor of the Exchequer) will have an admirable opportunity to display his powers as a constructive financier, and we only hope he will rise to the occasion. But he positively must not seek to escape from his difficult case by a further increase in the already oppressive income tax."

FIFTEEN MILLIONS FOR NAVY.

BIG INCREASE IN GREAT BRITAIN'S NAVAL ESTIMATES.

The London Times says that the British naval estimates for 1899-1900 will exceed those of 1898-1899 by nearly £30,000 (£15,000,000); reaching a total of nearly £28,000,000 (£140,000,000). The largest item will be for shipbuilding and repairs. It is also proposed to add 4,500 men to the navy.

Commenting editorially upon the same, the Times says: "It is

clear that Sir Michael Hicks-Beach (Chancellor of the Exchequer) will have an admirable opportunity to display his powers as a constructive financier, and we only hope he will rise to the occasion. But he positively must not seek to escape from his difficult case by a further increase in the already oppressive income tax."

SENT DOWN FOR 20 YEARS.

Verdict of Manslaughter in the Paris Shoot-ing Case.

A despatch from Brantford, Ont., says: "The Paris murder case was concluded at the Brantford Assizes on Wednesday evening. Some half dozen witnesses gave evidence for the prosecution, after which the prisoner, Mr. Stratton introduced a bill to amend the Municipal Act so that an iron bridge on stone piers crossing a navigable river and of the length of not less than 300 feet, provided with a swing and which has been erected by contributions from municipal, Dominion, and provincial sources shall be deemed a bridge over a river forming a boundary line between two counties within the meaning of section 167.

FOR CYCLISTS.

Mr. Stratton introduced a bill to amend the Municipal Act so that an iron bridge on stone piers crossing a navigable river and of the length of not less than 300 feet, provided with a swing and which has been erected by contributions from municipal, Dominion, and provincial sources shall be deemed a bridge over a river forming a boundary line between two counties within the meaning of section 167.

TRADE WITH CANADA.

Enquiries Made Through the Department of Commerce.

A despatch from Ottawa, Ont., says: "The Department of Trade and Commerce on Monday received the following enquiries from the office of the High Commissioner in London:

A Scotch firm of lumber merchants desire to correspond with Canadian exporters of hardwood, manufacturers of mouldings in oak and pine, blind-laths, picture backing, floorings in oak and white maple, and furniture, finished or unfinished.

Two large firms of belting manufacturers require agents with a good knowledge in the machinery line.

A Liverpool firm of cotton and woolen merchants in a position to buy cottons, woollens, linens, and hardware goods, wish to enter into communication with Canadian houses who wish for such representations.

A German firm engaged in the manufacture of a special kind of musical box and automaton device wishes to be placed in communication with Canadian firms inclined to do business with them, and also to have a suitable agent to represent them.

The shooting occurred at the Paris station. Three tramps were hanging around the depot, when one of them struck Steves in the mouth. Steves pulled a revolver and shot him dead.

paths are to be for the exclusive use of licensed cyclists. The license fee is to be deposited with the city, town, or county treasurer, and is to form a cycle-path fund, which may be drawn upon by the commissioners. Money so collected are to be appropriated to the repairing of existing cycle paths and the construction of new ones, and the enforcement of regulations for the use of cycle paths. A penalty of \$10 is to be imposed for riding a bicycle on bicycle paths without a license. The boards of adjoining counties may be united.

AGAINST BARBERRY.

Mr. Little introduced a bill to prohibit cultivation of barberry shrubs within a half a mile of farm land used for grain, and the bill provides that the Minister of Agriculture can direct the destruction of barberry cultivated contrary to the provisions of the Act. It provides also for compensation to the owner of the shrubs destroyed, and not intrinsically vital, but Great Britain is evidently determined to make it decisive of the fate of the Chinese Empire. In other words, England proposes to make a stand now in defense of her interests in the far East as well as in Africa.

This is not being a recognized market day, not as usual on a Thursday a good deal of bidding took place to-morrow by those who could not secure the price desired, and trade was still dull compared with what it was last Tuesday. The dull, unsettled weather, too, somewhat unsettled the market, and trade hung fire.

Shipping cattle was unchanged in price, with an easy enquiry this morning. For choice stuff from 41-2 to 5c per head was paid, and for light shippers from 4 to 4-3-8c was the range.

For choice butcher cattle 4c and 4-1-4c is paid, and other grades are unchanged at Tuesday's prices. The enquiry was slow to-day.

Cattle advices from the Old Country report cattle as rather weak over there.

Stockers, feeders, and export bulls are steady, but unchanged.

Much of the business done to-day was in small broken lots, but these are some of the leading transactions:

Twenty-two shippers, average 1,180 lbs., sold at \$1.90 per cwt.

Two loads of export cattle, average 1,225 lbs., sold at 5c per pound.

A load of 20 mixed cows, heifers, and steers, average 980 lbs., sold at \$3.65 per cwt.

Two loads of cattle, average 1,090 lbs., sold at 4c to 4-1-2c per pound; and ten dollars back.

A lot of fifteen export cattle, average 1,160 lbs., sold at \$4.30 per cwt. and five dollars back.

Seven cattle, mixed, average 1,025 lbs., sold at 4c per pound.

Thirteen cattle, average 1,000 lbs., sold at 4c to 4-1-2c per pound.

Sheep and lambs about unchanged, many medium lambs are coming along, and for such the price is easy, but choice lambs sold to-day as high as \$4.80 and \$4.90 per cwt.

Sheep and bucks are not greatly changed.

Good veal calves continue in demand up to as high as \$8 or \$9 each for prime stuff.

Choice hogs easy but unchanged.

Choice hogs sold to-day at 4-3-8c per lb., as a top price; light hogs fetched not more than 4c per lb.; and for thick fat 3-4-4c was the outside price.

Following is the range of current quotations:-

CATTLE.

Shipping, per cwt.....\$4.25 \$5.00-

Butcher, choice, do.....3.75 4.25

Butcher, inferior.....2.75 3.00

Sheep and Lambs.....

Ewes, per cwt.....3.00 3.50

Lambs, per cwt.....4.00 4.75

Bucks, per cwt.....2.50 2.75

Milkers and Calves.....

Cows, each.....25.00 45.00

Calves, each.....2.00 8.00

Hogs.....

Choice hogs, per cwt.....4.12 1-2 4.37 1-2

Light hogs, per cwt.....4.00 4.00

Heavy hogs, per cwt.....3.00 3.75

Buffalo, March 7—Spring wheat—

Dull but firm: No. 1 hard, 83-7-8c; No. 1 Northern, 81-2-8c; Winter wheat—

No. 2 red, 73-8-12c; No. 2 extra red, 77-1-2c; No. 1 white, 78c; Corn—Weak; unsold: No. 2 yellow, 38-1-2c; No. 3 yellow, 38c; No. 4 yellow, 37-1-2c; No. 2 corn, 37-1-2c; No. 3 corn, 37c; Oats—Dull and easy: No. 1 white, 35c; No. 2 white, 31-1-2c; No. 3 white, 31-1-2c to 33-1-2c; No. 4 white, 32-3-4c; No. 2 mixed, 32-1-4c; No. 3 mixed, 32-1-4c; Barley—Easy; sales light, unsold at 32c; Rye—Quiet; No. 2, on track, 66c; Flour—Quiet; Barley—Steady.

Detroit, March 7—Wheat—Closed:

No. 1 white, cash, 73-3-4c; No. 2 red, cash, 74-1-4c; May, 75-3-4c; July, 72-3-4c.

Milwaukee, March 7—Wheat—Lower:

No. 1 Northern, 72-1-2c; No. 2 Northern, 70-1-2c; Rye—Steady, 57c.

Barley—Steady: No. 2, 50 to 51-2c; sample, 42 to 49c.

Minneapolis, March 7.—Wheat—

March 70-1-2c; July, 71-1-2c; on track,

No. 1 hard, 73-3-4c; No. 2 Northern, 70-3-4c; No. 2 Northern, 68-3-4c. Flour—First patents, \$3.80 to \$4; second patents, \$3.60 to \$3.70; first clear, \$2.70 to \$2.80. Bran—in bulk, \$10.75 to \$11.

Duluth, March 7—Wheat—No. 1 hard, cash, 71-1-8c bid; March, 71-1-8c; May, 73-5-8 to 73-3-4c; July, 74-1-8c; No. 1 Northern, cash, 69-1-8c; No. 2 Northern, 65-3-8c.

WAREHOUSE BURNED.

SECOND TRIAL OF PONTON.

Death of an Ontario Lady at a Remarkable Age.

A despatch from Winnipeg, Man., says: "A dreadful accident occurred near Midwood station on the Manitoba and North-Western railway on Monday morning, by which the engineer, W. H. Hill, and Fireman P. Donlon were instantly killed. At the crossing of the Assiniboine River a heavy grade on the approach to Midwood station, and it was while climbing this about 6 o'clock Monday morning that the engine exploded taking the engine right off the track. None of the passengers were injured. The company's officers cannot explain the cause of the explosion.