

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

Notes of Proceedings in the Local Parliament.

TO SAVE THE FRUIT TREES.

One of the most important of the bills which will be introduced during the present session will be one to extend the operations of the San Jose Scale Act. It provides for inspection of nurseries, and a careful survey of all nursery stock.

GAME LAW CHANGES.

Mr. Carnegie will make an attempt to have the Game Law amended. He will ask that settlers be allowed to shoot deer one week before and one week after the close season.

FARMS IN A TOWN.

The town of Exeter is asking permission to assess vacant lands in the corporation as farm lands.

THE NICKEL RANGE RAILWAY.

One of the many railway companies which will ask for incorporation this session is the Nickel Range Railway. It will run from the Sault Ste Marie branch of the C.P.R. in the Township of Graham, and will run northerly through the Township of Creighton, to a point at or near the main line of the C.P.R.

A big list of petitions were presented during Wednesday's session of the House. Among them was one from the County Council of the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas, and Glenora, asking for the framing of a model and uniform by-law regulating the use of public thoroughfares and pathways on rural roads by wheelmen. The wheelmen of Ontario are watching all matters affecting them with great interest, and will be heard when legislation as to the wheel is proposed. Several petitions asking for legislation making markets all over the province free to all farm produce were presented. A petition from Carleton County Council asks that legislation be enacted giving County Councils the power to appoint their own constabulary.

SALE OF LAND FOR TAXES.

Hon. J. T. Garrow has given notice of a bill to amend the Assesment Act. The object is to require the sale of lands for taxes to be advertised for a period of 13 weeks, in order that ample notice may be given to everybody concerned.

THE SCHOOL ACT.

Mr. Brower, of East Elgin, has some changes to propose to the Education Act. The law provides that a second teacher is required in schools of 50 pupils. He asks that the number be raised to 60, and that the rate-payers' permission be required before an addition is made. He also asks for amendments so that among the ten men who form the Board of Education to control the Public School examination, three must be Public School inspectors.

JUDGES FEES.

The Ontario Government has decided upon re-arranging the system of payment of fees of some of the Surrogate Court officers, and in the following way, annually: Judge Hughes, Elgin, \$651; Judge Larroin, Perth, \$375; Judge Elliot, Middlesex, \$229; Judge Doyle, Huron, \$54. Judge Monck of Wentworth gets the surplus of fees over amount paid to Surrogate Judge, provided that that sum does not exceed \$666; and Judge Mosgrave of Carleton receives a like amount.

FOR THE DEAF AND DUMB.

Mr. Davis, laid on the table Inspector Chamberlain's twenty-eighth annual report of the Belleville Institute for the Deaf and Dumb, also the twenty-seventh annual report of the Brantford Institute for the Blind. The reports are for the year ending September, 1898. In the first-named report, that of the Institute for the Deaf and Dumb, the inspector recommends the erection of an addition to the present building to meet the urgent necessity for increasing school accommodation, and for a play-room and gymnasium. It is also recommended that the number of years for the course of tuition be increased, and that a compulsory law be enacted requiring the attendance of all deaf and dumb children in the province. Admission to the institution should, he says, be free to all such children residing in the Province of Ontario. The number of pupils on the roll at the end of the year was 280, viz., 144 boys and 136 girls. There was only one death during the year, and the health of the pupils was uniformly good. The total cost of maintenance for the year was \$44,887.22, as compared with \$45,282.70 for 1897. The weekly cost per pupil in '97 was \$326.0, and in '98 \$322; the yearly cost in '97 being \$170,226, and in '98, \$167,489. The average attendance of pupils in '97 was 266, and in '98, 268.

BRANTFORD INSTITUTE.

In the report of the Brantford Institute for the Blind the inspector states that there are 126 inmates, 64 boys and 62 girls. There is urgent necessity, he states, for increased accommodation especially to the girls' side of the institution. The total cost of maintenance in 1898 was \$33,589.15; weekly cost of each pupil per week, \$50.77; yearly cost per pupil \$2,603.33. The figures for the preceding year were, total, \$32,782.66; each pupil per week, \$49.25; yearly cost per pupil, \$2,561.11. Detailed statements by Principal Dymond and others, dealing with the year's work, are included in the report.

FUNDS OF THE PROVINCE.

Hon. Mr. Harcourt delivered his budget speech on Thursday. The public accounts this year consists of a book of 197 pages, considerably larger than former years. In these extra pages is given more detail of the revenue and expenditure of the province.

THE REVENUES.

The revenues from all sources during 1899 amounted to \$3,647,353.00, while the expenditure totalled \$3,808,081.83, showing a deficit of \$155,728.29. At the beginning of the year the Treasurer had in hand \$95,849.54 and \$510,000 on a special deposit account. The receipts were as follows:—Consolidated revenue fund—Dominion of Canada, \$1,196,872; interest on capital, etc., \$1,100,539; licenses, \$276,761; law stamps, \$57,284; Education Department, \$59,573; succession duty, \$506,185; casual revenue, \$106,569; sale of lands, \$42,290; public institutions, \$94,113; Algoma taxes, \$4,133; open accounts, \$188,971; total, \$3,647,353.

THE EXPENDITURES.

Following are the expenditures:—Consolidated revenue fund—Civil government, \$1,529,938; legislation, \$165,189; administration of justice, \$436,276; education, \$735,998; public institutions, \$7,542,858; agriculture, \$1,043,688; hospitals and charities, \$184,402; repairs and maintenance, \$8,872; colonization roads, \$107,454; surveys, inspections, etc., \$85.9; charges Crown Lands, \$162,395; refunds, \$27,199; statutes consolidated, \$43,851; miscellaneous, \$218,302; open account, \$349,866; total, \$3,903,081.83.

In only two cases was there an increase in revenue over 1897. These were the interest from all capital held and due by the Dominion, \$600,000, and in the Department of Education, \$3,057. The net decrease amounted to \$507,935, being principally in the Woods and Forests, where the falling off amounted to \$345,954. The other decreases were:—Interest on investments, \$4,374; Crown Lands, \$50,413; rent, \$101,412; licenses, \$12,630; law stamps, \$2,698; succession duty, \$22,633 casual revenue, \$19,276; public institutions, \$8,582; York County yielded more in succession duties than any other county, contributing \$69,073, the principal amounts being \$23,659 from the estate of Sir Casimir Gzowski, \$21,500 from the estate of Robert Hamilton, and \$12,240 from that of John Neilson; John Shields, \$4,500. The Central Prison cost \$89,577.83 during the year, and the receipts from that institution amounted to \$100,885.15.

A comparative statement shows that in 1898 the expenditure was \$3,808,081, as against \$3,767,675 in the previous year. The receipts of 1898 were \$3,647,353, as compared with \$4,139,817 the previous year. The great reduction was in the Crown Lands Department, where the revenue fell from \$1,595,939 to \$1,100,539.

ESTIMATES FOR THE YEAR.

The estimates were also placed on the table at the Legislature yesterday. They provide for expenditure amounting to \$3,409,567.73. Of this amount \$3,172,461.34, is on account of current expenditure; \$22,875.39, is on refund account, and \$214,231, on capital account. The amount required for the different departments is as follows: Civil government \$2,318; legislation, \$105,400; administration of justice, \$442,796; education, \$730,863; public institutions (for maintenance), \$805,732; immigration, \$7,075; agriculture, \$1,042,217; hospitals and charities, \$182,566; maintenance and repairs, \$8,872; Government and departmental buildings, \$17,540; public buildings (repairs), \$10,860; public works (repairs), \$21,401; charges on Crown lands, \$136,975; miscellaneous expenditure, \$17,400, and unforeseen and unprovided, \$50,000. Total, \$3,172,461.

CIVIL GOVERNMENT INCREASE.

There is an increase in the estimates for civil government of \$5,257, as compared with last year, and the following items also appear: Lieutenant-Governor's office, increase \$600; Attorney-General's Department, increase \$365; Department of Education, decrease \$2; Crown Lands, decrease \$1,720; Public Works, decrease \$3,450; Treasury Department, increase \$100; Provincial Board of Health, decrease \$175; Provincial Secretary, decrease \$125; public institutions, decrease \$50; insurance branch, decrease \$50; Department of Agriculture, increase \$50; Department of Immigration, decrease \$150; miscellaneous account, decrease \$50.

The sum of \$7,000 is asked for expenses in the elections, and \$1,000 for expenses in contested elections. Gratuity to the daughters of the late Alex. Grant, Osgoode Hall, \$2,200; gratuity to the estate of the late Principal Kirkland of the Toronto Normal School, \$2,500; gratuity to the estate of the late Prof. Pantou, Agricultural College, additional, \$1,300; gratuity to C. G. Horetzky, Public Works Department, \$1,100; gratuity to S. G. O'Grady, Public Works Department, \$1,050; gratuity to the widow of the late Aaron Slaght, mining inspector, \$500.

FISHERIES DEPARTMENT.

The newly formed Fisheries Department is estimated to cost \$25,300 while for 1898 it was \$6,000. A contribution to the Victorian Order of Nurses is placed at \$2,500, to be expended in New Ontario. There is an increase of nearly \$10,000 asked for the maintenance of public buildings. An increase of \$30,000 to repair public buildings is asked to be thus expended:—Asylums, at Toronto, \$355; Mimico, \$2,580; London, \$7,170; Hamilton, \$6,805; Kings-Denton, \$4,000; Brockville, \$6,805; Orillia, \$2,800; Central Prison, \$5,300; Reformatory, at Penetanguishene, \$700; do., Femdes, Toronto, \$3,600; Deaf and Dumb Institute, Belleville, \$1,450; Blind, Brantford, \$4,525; Agricultural College, Guelph, \$4,100; Education Department, Toronto, \$2,600; Normal school, Ottawa, \$500; Normal school, London, \$16,000; School of Practical Science, Toronto, 4,235; Osgoode Hall, \$600; New Parliament buildings, \$2,400.

PUBLIC WORKS EXPENDITURE.

Following are the sums asked for public works:—Gull and Burnt River Works, \$6,458; Lake of the Woods, \$4,000; Star Lake, \$400; to remove obstructions from navigable streams, \$750; maintenance of locks, dams, etc., at Bala and Port Carling, \$13,500. Revoles were given to Ottonabee river, \$295; Talbot river, \$600; bridge across Madawaska river at Burnstown, \$1,500; Payne river, improvement of bed of stream, \$4,000; improvement of bed of Maitland river in Elma and adjoining township, \$4,000; dredging Cuniar-

river, \$5,000. Of the above amounts \$4,950 represents new votes on capital account, and \$21,401 on repair account. The estimates for colonization roads are divided as follows: North division, \$19,450; west division, \$12,750; east division, \$22,950; general purposes \$26,850. There will be less expenditure in the Crown Lands Department than before. In mining roads the reduction is \$3,120. For mining roads the estimates are: Bel/City, and Mine Centre road, \$300; Jackfish Bay and Long Lake road, to extend towards Ursa Major mine, \$400; mining roads in vicinity of Rat Portage, \$1,000; Markstay and Kokagaming road, conditional, \$1,000; New Klondike road, extension, \$700; Lake Wabigoon, mining district roads, \$1,000, other mining roads, \$2,000; making a total of \$6,400.

ABOUT DAMAGE CASES.

C. A. Brown, M.P.P., for East Elgin, has a bill which will introduce into the Legislature. It provides that any person beginning a suit for damage against the municipality shall first put up the money necessary for the costs. The idea of the bill is to prevent the people who have nothing to pay, from entering into litigation and then forcing the payment of the costs on the corporation, whether liable or not. It will also provide that any one commencing suit and not depositing the costs will be required to appear before a judge, and it will be left for the court to decide whether the case shall go on.

VETERINARY SURGEONS.

The Ontario Veterinary Association, through William German, M.P.P., for Welland, will ask for an amendment to the Ontario Veterinary Act, passed in 1879. The amendment will make it illegal for any one to practise veterinary or surgical operations on animals who is not a regularly registered veterinary. Many cases have been reported throughout the province, where men have practised as veterinarians, when they have not been bona fide graduates of any recognized college. The amendment provides that any person found guilty of practising shall be liable to a fine of not more than \$25 or less than \$5.

GOOD ROADS.

Petitions asking that the Government spend more money on the improvement of roads have been asked by several places in the province. These places complain that as they have to keep up county buildings and bridges that the province should help to keep the roads good. They point out that Massachusetts pays out \$600,000 annually for roads, while New York State contributes 50 per cent, and Connecticut 33-1/3 per cent.

EXPORT OF FRUIT PULP.

The Ontario Department of Agriculture has issued a pamphlet on fruit pulp, giving correspondence relating to the possibility of shipping fruit pulp from Ontario to Great Britain. This pulp is used in Great Britain for making jam.

17 LUNATICS BURNED.

Awful Loss of Life in a South Dakota Fire—Asylum Building in Ruins. A despatch from Yankton, S.D., says:—One of the most horrifying fires in the history of Yankton occurred on Sunday morning at 2 o'clock at the State insane asylum, when one of the cottages took fire in the basement, completely gutting the building and causing the loss of the lives of 17 inmates confined there. The names of the missing are:—Augusta Boerse, Julia Erickson, Ella Loken, Margaret Lynch, Johanna Olsen, Martha Tennyson, Elizabeth Stople, Mrs. Kampan, Maggie Flynn, Lucina Gossage, Adelina Hurley, Christina Johnson, Jennie Krong, Luzia Kana, Caroline Lindberg, Katie Plavintz, Gains Swanson. The cottage was of stone and granite walls with wooden interior, and intended for laundry purposes, but owing to the crowded condition of 40 of the female patients were placed there, and the laundry was operated in the basement. The exact cause of the fire is not known, except that it originated in the dry-room of the laundry. The lack of water greatly hindered the work of the firemen.

SPYING OUT THE LAND.

Hungarian Representative Investigates Canada's Advantages. A despatch from Ottawa, says:—Herr Zoltan von Rajcs, who has been sent out by a community in Hungary to investigate the agricultural advantages of Canada, is here. Herr Rajcs has traveled extensively through Manitoba and the Territories, and has visited the Hungarian colonies at Esterhaza and Kapasvar. He says that the climate of this country will be entirely suited to the tastes of his people, since they are a hardy, vigorous race. He will visit the Upper Ottawa before leaving for home.

A ROAD AT THIRTY-MILES.

Mounted Police Lessen the Dangers of Travel to Dawson. The North-West Mounted Police have cut a road through the country at Thirty-mile on the Yukon which makes travel to and from Dawson far less dangerous than heretofore. Thirty-mile is one of the worst places on the river, and owing to the rapid current the water seldom freezes over entirely, and several outfits have been lost at this point. The new road cuts across country and saves seven miles of bad travelling.

BURIED UNDER THE DEBRIS.

Fatal Explosion at a Montreal Fire-Brick Side Wall Blown Out.

A despatch from Montreal, says:—One fireman was killed and several badly injured as the result of a destructive fire which started shortly after 11 o'clock this morning in Lamb's building, on the corner of Chaboillez square and Chaboillez street. The building is a large three-storey brick one, facing on Chaboillez square. The building adjoined the fine Chaboillez square fire station, but the alarm was sent in from another box, and when the reels drove out from the station the firemen found that the building adjoining them was in flames.

EXPLOSION OF GAS.

About half an hour after the arrival of the firemen, an explosion, caused by the gas and smoke, occurred, and a portion of the brick side wall on Chaboillez street was forced out. Sub-Chief H. Dubois and several firemen were working a stream on Chaboillez street at the time, and were caught in the shower of bricks from the falling wall. Dubois managed to escape with several bad cuts about his face, but Fireman Edward Smith and Joe Mooney, of No. 12 fire station, received the full force of the falling wall, and were buried beneath the bricks.

FIREMAN TAKEN OUT DYING.

Fireman Smith was taken out in a dying condition, and removed to a saloon near by, where he died shortly afterwards. Fireman Mooney was seriously injured, and was taken to the hospital. Owing to the quickness with which the fire spread several of the tenants had narrow escapes. John Levelle had just time to get his wife, who was sick, out of his flat when it was in flames. The building was almost completely destroyed, but the firemen prevented the fire from spreading to the fire station and adjoining buildings. Dr. Roy and Mr. Levelle lost all their household effects, and the bank offices were badly gutted.

Fireman Edward Smith, who lost his life in the discharge of his duty, was a young unmarried man about 30 years of age. He had been in the brigade a little over a year, and was attached to No. 12 station. Fireman Mooney is badly injured, but it is likely he will recover.

BURIED IN AN AVALANCHE.

Twenty-Four Italian Miners Meet Death in a Snowslide.

A despatch from Georgetown, Col., says:—In a snowslide at Silver Plume on Saturday, 24 lives are believed to have been lost. The dead are Italian miners, with their families. Eleven bodies have been recovered, only two of which have been identified. Today's slide was the most disastrous ever known in Clear Creek county. It occurred at 8 o'clock Saturday morning. Starting two miles from camp, the avalanche came with terrific force carrying with it huge boulders and immense trees. A short distance from the starting point the avalanche parted, one section coming from Cherokee gulch, taking with it two cabins occupied by Italians and the shaft-house of the Garry City mine. The other slide came down William gulch between the Pelican and the Seven Thirty mines. This part of the slide did the most damage.

Settlements of miners, mostly Italians, were situated in both gulches. For a week or more the inhabitants have moved from place to place to escape threatened disaster should the snow start down the mountain sides. Some of the most venturesome lingered in their homes, and when the slide came to-day escape was for them impossible. It is estimated that 13 bodies are still buried beneath the snow on the two gulches. There is practically no hope for those under the debris. Instantaneous death was probably their fate.

MAY BE HERR ANDREE'S PARTY.

Discovery of the Bodies of Three Men in North Siberia.

A despatch from Krasnovarsk, Siberia, says:—A gold mine-owner here named Monastyrskian has received a letter saying that a tribe of Tungusos inhabiting the Timur peninsula, North Siberia, recently, informed the Russian police chief of the district that on January 7th last, between Komo and Piet, in the Province of Yenisei k, they found a cabin constructed of cloth and oordage apparently belonging to a balloon. Close by were the bodies of three men, the head of one badly crushed. Around them were a number of instruments, the uses of which were not understood by the Tungusos. The police chief has started for the spot to investigate, as it is believed that the bodies are those of the aeronaut Herr Andree and his companions.

MASSACRED THE CHILDREN.

Several Hundred Seized by Chinese Rebels and Drowned.

A despatch from Vancouver says:—The Empress of China brings advices to the effect that Central China is seething with discontent. Rebel Yu-Man-Tze is reported to be on the road again, and to have captured two French missionaries. The rebels raided Kueifu, and while several hundred children under the care of Roman Catholics were on their way down the river, they were seized and drowned.

MARKETS OF THE WORLD.

Prices of Grain, Cattle, Cheese, &c in the Leading Markets.

DRESSED HOGS AND PROVISIONS

Toronto, Feb. 13.—Dressed hogs steady. Deliveries only fair. On the street to-day farmers' loads were sold at around \$5.25 for choice lots, and a fraction lower for heavy weights. On the track carloads sold at \$4.85 to \$5 mixed weights, delivered, and a fraction higher for selects. Provision market easy. Quotations are as follows:—Dry salted shoulders, 7c; long clear bacon, car lots 7c; ton lots and case lots, 7 1/4 to 7 1/2c, and backs, 8 to 8 1/4c.

Smoked meats—Hams, heavy, 9 1/2 to 10c; medium, 10 to 10 1/2c; light, 11c; breakfast bacon, 10 1/2 to 11c; picnic hams, 7 1/2 to 7 3/4c; roll bacon, 8 1/4 to 8 1/2c. All meats out of pickle 10 less than prices quoted for smoked meats. Lard—Tierces, 7c; tubs, 7 1/4 to 7 1/2c, pails, 7 1/2 to 7 3/4c; compound, 5 1/2 to 6c.

BREADSTUFFS, ETC.

Wheat—The Chicago market closed higher to-day, and cables were also better. There was a rather better feeling locally. Offerings of Ontario wheat light, demand flat. Holders ask 69c for red and white wheat, north and west, and exporters bid 68c. No. 1 Manitoba hard, sold at 63 1/2c, North Bay, and No. 1 Northern at 60 1/2c. Holders ask 80c for No. 1 hard, Owen Sound and Midland. Flour—Quiet. Exporters quote \$3 for straight roller, in wood, middle freights. Sales for local and Quebec account are made at \$3.10. Millfeed—Scarce; ton lots of bran, the local mills are quoted at \$14, and shorts at \$16; car lots, middle freights, are quoted at \$13.50 for bran and \$15 for shorts.

Oatmeal—Steady. Car lots of rolled oats, in bags, on track here, are quoted at \$3.50 per bbl; and in bbls, at \$3.70. Peas—Rather firmer. Car lots, north and west, are wanted at 60c, and east at 67c. Oats—Firmer. White oats, north and west, in car lots, are quoted at 25 1/2c bid and 29 1/2c asked. Rye—Scarce. Car lots, north and west, sold at 51c; and east at 55c. Buckwheat—Scarce and steady. Offerings light; car lots, outside, 48 to 49c. Corn—American easier. Canadian yellow, Chatham, is quoted at 36c bid; American yellow new, is offered at 42c; and new, mixed, at 41 1/2c. Barley—About steady. Car lots of No. 1, outside, are quoted at 43 to 49c.

DAIRY PRODUCE.

Butter—Market in fair shape, and without change as to prices. Choice dairy is active and wanted here. The quotations are as follows:—Dairy, tub, poor to medium, 11 to 12c; choice, 13 to 14c; large rolls, 14 to 15c; small dairy, lb. prints, about 15 to 16c; creamery, tubs and boxes, 19 to 20c; its 20 to 21c, with an occasional 22c for select packages. Cheese—Unchanged. Choice stock sells at from 9 3/4 to 10 1/2c.

PRODUCE.

Eggs—Market unchanged. Prices to-day held steady. New laid in active demand. Choice boiling stock sells at 19 to 20c; held fresh and limed at 14 to 15c. Potatoes—Receipts fair and prices unchanged. Car lots, on track, are quoted at 55 to 58c, per bag; dealers sell out of store at 60 to 70c; farmers' loads sell at around 60 to 70c. Honey—Steady. Round lots of choice, delivered here, will bring about 5 1/2 to 6c; dealers quote from 6 to 7c per lb, for 10 lb tubs; and in comb at around \$1.25 to \$1.50 per dozen sections. Baled hay—The market without change. Strictly choice, car lots is quoted at \$6.50 to \$7.50 per ton; and No. 2, at \$6.

Straw—Easy. Car lots are quoted at \$4 to \$4.50, on track. Hops—Fair demand. Dealers here sell at 16 to 20c, and are paying holders, outside, about 14 to 18c. Buffalo, Feb. 13.—Spring wheat—Strong; higher: No. 1 hard, 83-8c; No. 1 Northern, 79 3-8c. Winter wheat—No offerings: No. 2 red quoted at 76 1/2c; No. 1 white, 76 1/2c bid. Corn—Dull; No. 3 yellow, 83 1/2c; No. 4 yellow, 83c; No. 2 corn, 83 1/2c; No. 3 corn, 83c. Oats—Strong; higher: No. 2 white, 35c; No. 3 white, 34c; No. 4 white, 33c. Barley—Steady; sales of Western at 53 to 56c. Rye—Nominal; No. 2, on track, 64c. Flour—Unchanged.

DETROIT, MICH., FEB. 13.—WHEAT—CLOSED—No. 1 white, cash, 73 1/2c; No. 2 red, cash, 73 1/2c; May, 76c; July, 73 1/2c.

Milwaukee, Wis., Feb. 13.—Wheat—No. 1 Northern, 73c; No. 2 Northern, 70 1/2 to 71c; No. 1, 56 1/2 to 57c. Barley—No. 2, 51 to 51 1/2c; sample, 48c. Minneapolis, Feb. 13.—Wheat—February, 71c; May, 71 3/8 to 71 1/2c; July, 71 3/4 to 71 7/8c; No. 1 hard, 72c; No. 1 Northern, 71c; No. 2 Northern, 69c. Flour—First patents, \$3.70 to \$3.80; second, \$2.75 to \$2.85; first clear, \$2.65 to \$2.75.

Duluth, Minn., Feb. 13.—Wheat—No. 1 hard cash, 72c bid; February 72c bid; May 74 1/2c bid; July 75c bid; No. 1 Northern, cash, 71c bid; February, 70c bid; May 72 1/2c bid; July, 73c bid.

Toledo, O., Feb. 13.—Wheat—No. 2, cash, 73 1/2c; bid. Cloverseed—Prime cash, old, \$3.80; new, cash, and February, \$4.12 1/2.

The brain of an ant is larger in proportion to its size than that of any other known creature.