

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

Notes of Proceedings in the Local Parliament.

RAILWAYS WANT AID.

The representatives of three railway companies ask aid for their several enterprises. The first request was for a grant of \$100,000 towards a bridge across the Ottawa river at Hawkesbury, to connect the Parry Sound and Canada and Atlantic railways with the Great Northern, and thus give a trunk line from Parry Sound to the Province of Quebec, to facilitate the direct export of grain, and to aid the development of that part of Ontario affected by the lines mentioned. The bridge will cost half a million dollars, and the Dominion had granted \$52,500 towards it, besides subsidizing the roads. County Crown Attorney Curry acted as spokesman, and was accompanied by J. M. Savage, of the Great Northern railway, and Mr. Barrie, of the Canada Atlantic, besides the Speaker and a number of the members of the House.

WORTHINGTON AND ONAPING.

The Worthington and Onaping railway, a continuation of the North Shore and Manitowlin railway across the Nickel range and into the Vermilion district, was represented by H. W. Evenden, an English capitalist from the South African gold fields, and now residing at Campement d'Ours Island, Lake Huron, and Mr. John McKay, of the So. The latter preferred the usual request of \$3,000 per mile.

TO DEVELOP MINERAL LANDS.

The third enterprise to solicit aid was also in the line of New Ontario development. It was the Bruce Mines and Algoma railway, to run 50 miles north from Bruce Mines, and open up copper and nickel locations, eventually tapping the C.P.R. main line. Those present were Mayor Wile, Buffalo; Judge H. Hen, Soo, Mich.; B. W. Goodson, Chicago; B. G. Caryell, Chesaning, Mich.

RAPID GROWTH OF PINE.

Mr. Frank H. Liday, Government Timber Agent at Parry Sound, was before the Public Accounts Committee and he told the committee some things about forestry that were interesting. His chief contention was that the greater part of the unsettled lands of the province which the timber had been taken would reforest themselves in the course of 50 years. The fact that the ground had been burnt over would not deter the second growth from being a merchantable size.

NO SMALL BLACK BASS.

The Game Department have taken action against a number of Toronto fish dealers who have been offering for sale very small black bass this winter. The department want the small fish left alone. They are too small to sell, the department says. All the dealers have been warned to cease buying these small fish and offering them for sale. Mr. Liday will hereafter be classed as a sporting fish, and not as a commercial fish. This will mean that none of these fish may be taken by nets.

NOT SO MANY PERMITS.

Objection has been taken to the large number of permits that were issued last year to those wishing to kill insectivorous birds for scientific purposes. Too many birds have been taken, the department believe, for other purposes than scientific. As a consequence there will be a great decrease in the number of licenses this season. Last year the total permits issued to allow the taking of insectivorous birds and eggs was 63, while this year only 32 has been issued.

CROWN LANDS REPORT.

The Crown Lands report shows that 50,231 acres of Crown lands were sold during the year for a value aggregating \$24,353. The collection on these and former years' sales amounted to \$2,042. Mining lands to the extent of 48,911 acres were leased, \$63,941 rent being collected. The total receipts of the department were \$1,112,582 and the disbursements \$311,348. From woods and forests \$981,483 was received. The decrease in revenue amounted to \$315,563. The change in the law relating to timber will be responsible for a big decrease in the cut.

PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION.

Mr. S. Russell, East Hastings, moved the second reading of his bill to allow municipalities to adopt proportional representation. The bill provides that any city, town, village or township may pass a by-law providing for the adoption of proportional representation by any method which will result in the election of any qualified candidate who obtains at his election a quota of valid votes, the said quota being found by dividing into the number of valid votes the number of councillors, or aldermen to be elected, ignoring fractions, if any. Any municipal council may, whether adopting proportional representation or not, provide by by-law for the use at the election of any municipal officer, wherein only one candidate is to be filled, and only one candidate can be elected, of a preferential ballot that will enable, in the event of more than two candidates running for such office, electors to designate their choice not only by marking their ballot for the elector's first choice, but in such a way as to designate second and subsequent choices, in the alternative event of the first choice having been unsuccessful; and for such purpose may provide for the utilization of such votes cast for an unsuccessful candidate by a redistribution of them after dropping such candidate in process of counting, after the manner of the Here-Spence system, or other system as may be deemed by said council most effective for the purpose.

BON MR. HARDY'S OBJECTIONS.

The Attorney-General admitted that the proposed method of voting might

suit certain classes of electors; but he was not sure it would be the best for legislative assemblies. In saying this he was not disparaging its usefulness. He agreed that it was a matter that commended itself to a large section of the reading and thinking public. It had made considerable advance, especially with those who care for philosophical theories, but these were only in a limited sphere. He did not deny that proportional representation might work well in connection with friendly societies, church organizations and perhaps election of school trustees. In all these cases he had no doubt the method advocated by the hon. member might be used with great advantage; probably also in township and city council elections.

He was afraid, however, that it would not work effectively in Dominion or Provincial elections, for not one-half of the electors would have the ability to understand it. To ask the legislature to adopt such a principle was more than he could agree to. It was such an interesting academic question, but would not be understood by the people at large. The order was then discharged and the bill withdrawn.

AIMED AT THE GYPSIES.

Mr. Richardson's bill to prevent camping on highways or unenclosed land and to empower county constables to make arrests without a warrant was read a second time.

TO DECLARE QUALIFICATION.

Mr. Leys secured the second reading of his bill requiring, in case of municipal and school elections, a declaration of the property qualification of the candidate to be made before 5 o'clock on nomination day.

TRADING STAMP COMPANIES.

Mr. Lumsden's bill, regulating trading stamp companies, and imposing a yearly tax in proportion to population, was read a second time. The Hon. member for Ottawa thinks it only reasonable, on account of their interference with ordinary business concerns, that trading stamp companies shall pay a tax of \$100 in cities above 50,000 population; \$500 in cities with less than 50,000; \$250 in places where the population is 5,000 or over.

CHANGE IN RE-ELECTION PETITIONS.

The premier introduced a bill relating to controverted elections, in which he proposes to get after what he calls "straw men" in connection with election petitions. It provides that in all contests, save where the defeated candidate is himself the petitioner, the proceedings must be taken by four men as formerly.

BILLS BECOME LAW.

The following bills were read a third time:

Bill to improve the law respecting Public Schools.—Mr. Ross.

Bill to incorporate the village of Sturgeon Point.—Mr. Fox.

Bill to incorporate the Western hospital of Toronto.—Mr. Crawford.

Bill to incorporate the Bruce Mines and Algoma Railway Company.—Mr. Farwell.

Bill to consolidate the floating debt of the town of Brampton.—Mr. Smith.

Bill respecting by-law No. 462 of the town of Dundas.—Mr. Wardell.

Bill to confirm by-law No. 152 of the village of Tara.—Mr. Bowman.

Bill confirming the city of Kingston and the Dominion Cotton Mills Company.—Mr. Graham.

Bill respecting the trustees of the Osgoode burial ground.—Mr. Guibold.

Bill respecting the London Street Railway Company.—Mr. German.

Bill respecting the town of Cobourg.—Mr. Clarke.

Bill respecting the village of Winchester.—Mr. Whitney.

Bill respecting the village of Exeter.—Mr. Garrow.

GAME PROTECTION.

Mr. Gibson introduced his bulky bill to amend the Game Protection Act. Among its provisions hotels and restaurants are prohibited from setting game on their tables during the prohibited season unless they are in the possession of licenses to store game shot during the open season. For purposes of tracing the same the licensee is obliged to furnish a record of all game stored. Other clauses provided that sportsmen's guides must be licensed by the game warden. This, said Mr. Gibson, was designed to provide employment for the Canadian guide and do away with the practice of introducing American guides.

Mr. Gibson said the question of killing deer in water was an old one, and had been before the House for twenty years. He himself wasn't sure as to the merits of the case; but it seemed to be pretty generally agreed that while hounding deer was permitted, the clause of the Act prohibiting the killing of deer in water should be repealed.

Mr. Reid, Addington, supported the bill, on the ground that if the deer were not taken in the water, many of them that had been wounded by hunters got away and died in the woods.

STURGEON FALLS PULP MILL.

The agreement of the Sturgeon Falls Pulp Company with the Government was laid on the table at the Legislature. It provides that the company is to buy out the Ontario company, and each year manufacture 5,000 tons. The company is to erect paper mills costing \$1,000,000 and turn out 30,000 tons of paper yearly. In the first six months \$250,000 of the money must be spent, and double that amount in two years, and the total in three. For all this the Government gives the company the right to cut spruce, poplar, tamarac, and jack pine along the Sturgeon river and tributaries. They are to pay 10 cents for hardwood and 20 cents per cord for spruce. The company have no rights to soil, and must not retard settlers.

ALLEN CLERGY.

The Premier's bill to amend the statute law was passed through committee. Among other things it legalizes marriages solemnized in the past by foreign ministers.

MARKETS OF THE WORLD.

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

Toronto, March 28.—We had a fair market here this morning, for a day on which there is supposed to be no market. All told about forty loads of stuff came here, including some twelve hundred hogs, 350 yearlings and sheep, and a few calves and milkers.

Practically there was no change in anything, and while trade appeared a trifle slow, almost everything here sold, only two or three loads being held for to-morrow's market. Still, for anything but the best grades of shippers and butcher cattle the tendency was for easier quotations.

Shippers of the best quality are worth from 4 3-4 to 5c, and for extra choice selections a shade more will be paid. Light shippers are worth from 4 1-8 to 4 1-2c per pound.

Butcher cattle sells at from 3 3-4 to 4c for loads of choice stuff, with 4 1-4c paid for selections; good medium butcher cattle sell at around 3 1-2c, and inferior down to 3c per pound; and for very poor stuff a little less.

We had a light supply of stockers in to-day, and prices were a little better at from \$3.60 to \$3.90 per cwt. More would have sold.

There is no change in export bulls, feeders or milkers. A few good milkers are wanted.

Here are some of the chief sales to-day:—

One load of butcher cattle, average 1,000 lbs., sold at 4 1-4c per pound.

A load of shippers, average 1,250 lbs., sold at \$1.85 per cwt.

Twenty-four cattle, average 1,025 lbs., sold at 4 1-4c per pound.

Twenty-two cattle, average 1,100 lbs., sold at \$4.00 per cwt.

Twenty-four butcher cattle, average 1,025 lbs., sold at \$3.85 per cwt.

Fourteen export cattle, average 1,125 lbs., sold at 4 3-4c per pound.

Good yearlings are wanted, and were a little stronger to-day at from 4 1-2 to 5c for choice.

Sheep are unchanged at 3 1-4 to 3 1-2c per pound.

Bucks are worth from 2 3-4 to 3c per pound.

Hogs are quoted unchanged at from 4 1-4 to 4 1-2c per pound for "singers" but it must be clearly understood that 4 1-2c is quite the top figure and is only likely to be paid for the best selections; if this is made clear it may save disappointment on arriving here. Other quotations are:—

4 to 4 1-8c for light hogs; 3 1-4 to 3 7-8c per lb for fat heavy stuff; 3c for sows, and 2c for stags.

Store hogs are not wanted.

Following is the range of current quotations:—

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

Butcher, choice, do. . . 3.75 4.25

Butcher, med. to good. 3.25 3.69

Butcher, inferior. . . 2.87 3.12 1-2

Sheep and Lambs. Ewes, per cwt. . . 3.00 3.50

Yearlings, per cwt. . . 4.50 5.00

Bucks, per cwt. . . 2.50 2.75

Milkers and Calves. Cows, each. . . 25.00 45.00

Calves, each. . . 2.00 10.00

Hogs. Choice hogs, per cwt. . 4.25 4.50

Light hogs, per cwt. . 4.00 4.12 1-2

Heavy hogs, per cwt. . 3.00 3.87 1-2

Buffalo, March 28.—Spring wheat stronger; No. 1 northern, 79 3-4c. Winter wheat little doing; No. 2 red nominally 77c; No. 1 white, 77c; Corn higher, but no demand at advance; No. 2 yellow, 39c; No. 3 yellow, 38 1-2c; No. 4 yellow, 37 1-2c; No. 2 corn, 38c; No. 3 corn, 37c to 37 1-2c; No. 4 corn, 36 1-2c. Oats dull, but feeling firmer; No. 2 white, 34c to 36c; No. 3 white, 32 3-4c to 35c; No. 4 white, 30 3-4c to 32c; No. 2 mixed, 30 1-2c to 30 3-4c; No. 3 mixed, 30c. Barley held strong, Rye nominally 61c for No. 2 on track. Flour dull and unchanged.

Toledo, March 28.—Close — Wheat firm; cash 73 1-4c, May, 73 1-2c bid, July, 70 5-8c; No. 3 soft, 71 1-2c bid. Corn, cash 35c, May 36 1-4c. Oats, cash and May 27 1-2c. Seed, cash \$3.29, March and April \$3.42 bid, October \$3.95 bid.

Oswego, March 28.—Wheat market fairly strong; No. 2 red quoted at 83c; No. 1 northern 88c; No. 1 hard, 88 1-2 to 89c. Corn steady; No. 2 yellow, 44c; No. 3 yellow, 41 1-2 to 42c; No. 2 mixed, 41 1-2c. Oats steady; No. 2 white, 37c; No. 3 white, 36 1-2 to 36 3-4c. Barley market shows no change; Canada nominally 83c to 85c, western 53 to 60c; no sales, receipts or shipments. Rail freights to New York:—Wheat, peas, rye and barley, 100 1-2c per cwt.

LORD KITCHENER'S DEFENCE.

Replies to the Charges Made of Excess Slaughter of Dervishes.

A despatch from London says:—The despatch of Lord Cromer, British diplomatic agent in Egypt, embodying the reply of the Sirdar, Gen. Lord Kitchener, of Khartoum, to questions regarding the alleged mutilation and useless slaughter of dervishes in the battle of Omdurman, has been laid before Parliament. The Sirdar says that the only wounded dervishes killed by his troops were those who feigned death in order to obtain opportunity for killing. "Whatever was done," he continues, "was done with all possible considerations of humanity." The Sirdar justifies the destruction of the tomb of the Mahdi and the disposal of the prophet's remains, on the ground that, if the mausoleum had been left intact and unprofaned, it would have become the centre of fanatical pilgrimages, causing endless trouble. He says he himself ordered the demolition. Lord Cromer endorses the statements of Gen. Kitchener.

MRS. PLACE EXECUTED.

The First Woman to Die in an Electric Chair.

A despatch from Sing Sing, N. Y., says:—Mrs. Place, the first woman electrocuted, died at 11.01 on Monday morning. She made no scene. The first shock lasted four seconds. The voltage was 1,760.

Mrs. Place went calmly to the chair, leaning on Warden Sage's arm. Her eyes were closed, and she seemed neither to see nor hear. She murmured a prayer. Two women attended her, one a prison attendant, the other a physician. Mrs. Place was calm beyond expectation. No one has walked into the death chamber as serenely as she. Death came with less struggle than was ever witnessed here before. Death was instantaneous.

The crime for which Mrs. Place died was committed on February 7th, 1893, and was the outcome of jealousy. She was first married to a man named Savacool, but the union proved very unhappy, and they were finally divorced, after a son had been born. Mrs. Place was obliged to become a servant, and entered the family of William W. Place a widow, with a little daughter, Ida Mildred. She afterward married Place, and her treatment of the child, to whom she had previously been kind, changed. The girl grew up, and her father frequently went riding with her. Mrs. Place became jealous, and quarrels became frequent.

On the day of the murder there was a quarrel of unusual bitterness. Place left the house in anger, and after he had gone the woman discharged the servant, and then proceeded to the room of the girl, who was just sixteen years of age, threw acid in her face, and afterwards choked her to death. She then lay in wait for her husband, and when he returned met him in the hallway and struck him twice with an axe. He escaped, however, and informed the police, who broke into the house in time to prevent her taking her own life by asphyxiating herself with the fumes of illuminating gas.

ARE LYNCHING THE NEGROES.

A Race War in Little River County, Arkansas.

A despatch from Texarkana, Ark., says:—A race war is on in Little River Co., and during the last 48 hours an indefinite number of negroes have met death at the hands of the white population. Seven are known to have been lynched, and the work is not yet done. The bodies of victims of the mob's vengeance are hanging to the limbs of trees in various parts of the county.

The country is in a state of the most intense excitement. White men are collecting in mobs, heavily armed and determined, and the negroes are fleeing for their lives.

It was not until Tuesday that the trouble assumed a serious aspect. It then developed that carefully-laid plans had been made by a number of negroes to precipitate a race war, and many white men had been marked for victims. It is learned that 23 negroes were implicated in this plot, and the whites are now bent on meting out summary punishment to the conspirators.

SIGNIFICANT APPOINTMENT.

Britain to Enforce a Settlement of Newfoundland Fishing Disputes.

A despatch from St. John's, Nfld., says:—Special significance attaches to the appointment of Commodore Gifford to command the British squadron in Newfoundland waters during the coming fishing season. No officer so far advanced in the British navy list was ever before appointed to this command, he being the senior of every officer in the British North American fleet except Admiral Fisher. His selection is regarded as indicating a determination on the part of Great Britain to enforce a settlement of disputed questions in this quarter by strengthening the squadron.

THE CASTILIAN'S POSITION.

Wide Separation Between the Two Portions of Wreck.

A despatch from Boston, says:—Capt. M. Gray of the Dominion Atlantic line steamer Prince George, which arrived on Friday from Yarmouth, N.S., reports that on Thursday, while on passage from Boston to Yarmouth, he steamed within three miles of the steamer Castilian, which was recently wrecked on Ganet Dry Ledges. The wreck has broken in two, and the forward part swung around and heading south-east. The separation between the two portions of the wreck is sufficiently wide to permit the passage of small steamcraft between them. The work of salving the cargo continues at every favourable chance, but during the recent stormy weather it had to be abandoned altogether.

BLOKE HIS NECK.

Fell From a Hay Mow to the Barn Floor.

A despatch from Gore Bay, Manitoulin, says:—Lindsey Sawyer, aged 18, employed on the farm of George Wedgerfield, near Lake Mindemoya, in the township of Carnarvon, had gone up the ladder to the scaffold in the barn to throw down some straw which covered the poles upon which he stepped. The poles gave way, and Sawyer fell a distance of 14 feet, striking the bolster of a wagon and then the floor, and was instantly killed.

AMERICANS AND PILIPINOS

TWO DAYS' HEAVY FIGHTING IN THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

Nearly 300 Americans Killed and Wounded in the Fiercest Battle Since Hostilities Commenced—Col. Egbert Among the Slain.

Special Edition

A despatch from Manila says:—As the result of two days' terrific fighting, from 4 a.m. until dusk on Saturday and all day Sunday, the Filipinos have been severely punished. The movement was planned with great skill, and so far as it was effected was carried out with intrepid courage, but the loss on both sides was enormous. The killed and wounded:—

Total U. S. killed. 56

Total U. S. wounded. 295

Filipinos killed, estimated. . . 450

Wounded. 700

Swinging through the country to the north-east, the Americans drove the rebels from their trenches, capturing village after village. Owing to the roughness of the country the advance of the United States forces was not as rapid as had been anticipated, and Malabon was burned by the rebels before the opposing forces could reach it. Polo was to be attacked on Sunday night, but it is believed the rebels will also set this place on fire and retire to Malabon, the headquarters of the Philippine Government. There is no denying the fact that the movement has not been the success that was anticipated, and the army of Aguinaldo is not by any means crushed as yet.

Before the fighting commenced, Aguinaldo asked Otis' terms. The general replied, unconditional surrender.

Among the killed are Col. Harry C. Egbert, of the 22nd Regiment of Infantry, who was wounded at San Juan. Prince Ludwig von Loewenstein-Wertheim, concerning whose whereabouts many enquiries have been made from London and the United States, was accidentally killed by the fire of the American troops while rashly pushing ahead in advance of the firing lines. He was serving as a volunteer aide on the staff of Gen. Wheaton.

Prince Ludwig Karl Loewenstein, who married Lady Anne Saville, a daughter of the Earl of Medborough, had been lost sight of by his friends, and an advertisement, enquiring as to his whereabouts, had appeared in the London newspapers. This elicited a despatch from Manila, saying that the missing prince was in the Philippines, and had been there for many months. He was present at the destruction of Montejó's fleet.

NOTHING EDIBLE FOR MILES.

Effect of the Continuous Drought in New South Wales.

A despatch from Vancouver, B.C., says:—Australia is prostrated by another heat wave. H. C. Russell, the Government astronomer, says that there will be no rain until the end of March or April. If this proves true immense pastures and raming lands will wither up, causing widespread ruin. One correspondent in the Sydney Mail says that a million sheep and hundreds of thousands of horses and cattle are dead from the drought. Settlers are on the verge of bankruptcy. The correspondent says:—

"Already the grass has vanished and the tanks, creeks, and rivers are dry. I have witnessed some heart-breaking scenes in the struggle of lessees to save their stock. I saw men who had been working for 20 years to get their homes in paying shape left without a sheep or blade of grass and their homes destroyed eventually by bush fires. The black situation is a national calamity, and the drought has brought all the horrors of a plague with it. Thousands are living without meat and in a half-starved state, cattle and sheep being all gone or reduced to skin and bone only. Members of Parliament are traveling through the affected districts, and each colony will cancel the rent for public lands altogether or reduce it to a nominal sum."

W. N. Willis, of New South Wales, after a trip through the affected districts, says that 50 per cent. of the stock has succumbed to drought. Mr. Russell admits that the colony is in a dreadful condition, but says that the appalling loss of sheep is due to overstocking as much as to the terrible drought.

ANOTHER FRENCH EXPLOSION.

Laboratory Attached to the War Department Blown Up.

A despatch from Paris says:—The series of explosions in Government ammunition depots which commenced with the terrible disaster at La Goubran, near Toulon, followed on Saturday with explosions at Bourges and Marseilles was continued on Tuesday evening when an alarming explosion occurred in the laboratory of explosives attached to the War Department, where experiments were being made with a new kind of gun-powder.

Chief Engineer Viel, Assistant Engineer D'Ouville, and a third official were injured. All the windows in the neighborhood were smashed and considerable other damage was done.

Although it is not believed that the explosion was the result of foul play, great excitement followed.