

for the lease is always made by some one not in possession. The Department should bring down some legislation to put an end to what is known as the "leased bar."

The Government has taken sound ground in reference to the quashing of by-laws. It should go further. To-day the law in respect to the quashing of local option by-laws is in some respect in an absurd position. Having carried your by-law it is open to attack and can be successfully attacked if you can show that enough men voted without regard to how they voted to wipe out the majority for the by-law—in other words all bad votes on both sides are deducted from those cast in favor of the by-law. So that the result is that the local option by-law majority may be reduced, first, by reason of a large number of unqualified voters voting against local option, and then by legal proceedings the by-law is quashed because these unqualified voters must be again deducted from the majority, and in that way the by-law is quashed.

These are some suggestions that I venture to make, and I have no doubt will from time to time receive the attention and I hope the favorable attention of the Government.

There is another suggestion—I do not know that the country is ripe for it just yet. I am not sure that it is. That is that the county should be made the unit of local option. The time may be coming when that would be a wise provision.

I have said I do not like the three-fifths clause, and would never have enacted it myself had I been the Government of Ontario. I would have left it as it was, but it is, however, a question upon which there is room for a wide difference of opinion. Clergymen and many prominent temperance men approve of the three-fifths clause, but Mr. Speaker, it is, in any case, of minor importance as compared with the necessity for honest, earnest, vigorous enforcement of the law, and I prefer to trust the future of local option, even with the three-fifths clause, to the present Government rather than to the gentleman who today opposes the three-fifths clause but who will not say where he stands on local option; to a gentleman, who, if rumor is correct, assisted in preventing his own party carrying out its temperance pledges. (Applause). I prefer to trust the Provincial Secretary, who is not given to making rash promises but when he does promise carries it out, and in three years of vigorous enforcement of the Liquor License Act has gained the confidence of the temperance people of the Province of Ontario and has done much to make