

ONTARIO LAND IMPROVEMENT FUND.

Mr. HESSON enquired, What balance (if any) is now due to the Province of Ontario on account of the Land Improvement Fund? Does the Government still allow and pay interest on said fund at the rate of 5 per cent.? Have the Dominion Government at any time refused to make provision for the payment of principal or interest on account of said fund when requested so to do? Have the Ontario Government now made a demand upon this Government for payment in full of said indebtedness? If so, will a sum be included in the Supplementary Estimates for payment of same?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. By the fifth clause of the award of the arbitration appointed to adjust the debts of the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, it was declared (page 3) that the Upper Canada Improvement Fund, amongst other special or trust funds, should be the property of and belong to the Province of Ontario. By the seventh clause of the award (page 6), it was declared that from the Common School Fund, as held on the 30th June, 1867, the sum of \$124,685.18 should be taken and deducted, and placed to the credit of the Upper Canada Improvement Fund, that sum being one fourth part of the moneys received by the late Province of Canada, between the 6th March, 1861, and the 1st July, 1867. In the accounts recently rendered to the two Provinces, the said sum of \$124,685.18 was credited to the Province of Ontario as on the 30th June, 1867. Correspondence is now taking place, and has been going on since October last, between the Ontario Government and the Finance Department respecting the several accounts, and enquiries are being made as to the circumstances connected with the origin and distribution of the fund in question, and it is expected that during the recess a settlement will be arrived at of all the accounts between the Provinces and the Dominion. We stated in October or November last that the Government were prepared to dispose of these accounts, but it has not yet been convenient. I do not know that there was any distinct demand made.

LACHINE CANAL.

Mr. GAULT enquired, When does the contract call for the completion of the two new basins on the Lachine Canal, and what will be the probable cost of those works?

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. The contract calls for the completion of the two new basins on the Lachine Canal in September, 1884, and the probable cost of these works is \$150,000.

DOMINION EXHIBITION.

Mr. GAULT enquired, Is it the intention of the Government to have the Dominion Exhibition held in Montreal this year, and to make the usual grant for that purpose?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. It has not been decided where the exhibition will be held, as far as the Government are concerned.

SUBSIDIES TO THE PROVINCES.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY moved that the House resolve itself into Committee of the Whole on Tuesday next, to consider the following Resolution:—

That it is expedient to provide that in the accounts between the Dominion and the Provinces of Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, the amounts by which the respective debts of the said Provinces were increased by the Act 36 Vic., cap. 30 (as explained as to Nova Scotia by the Act 37 Vic., cap. 3) shall be calculated and allowed to the Provinces aforesaid, as if the said Act 36 Vic., cap. 30 had directed that the increased amounts should be allowed from the date of the coming into force of the British North America Act, 1867, and the amounts of such increases respectively from the last mentioned date to the 1st of July, 1873, shall be deemed capital owing to the said

Provinces respectively, and shall bear interest at the rate of 5 per cent. as part of their respective subsidies; and further, that as respects the Provinces of British Columbia, Manitoba and Prince Edward Island, the amounts hitherto calculated and allowed as the debts of these Provinces respectively, shall be increased by such amounts as shall make the total amounts thereof respectively bear the same proportion to the respective populations of the said Provinces as ascertained by the Census of 1881, as the total amount calculated and allowed as the respective debts of Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, as provided hereby, shall bear to the respective populations of the last named Provinces, as ascertained by the said Census of 1881, and the amount of such increases to the said Provinces of British Columbia, Manitoba and Prince Edward Island, shall be deemed capital owing to the said Provinces respectively, and shall bear interest at the rate of 5 per cent. as part of their respective subsidies.

He said: This is changed from the original notice. In looking over the matter as it stood, I found that it would not be doing justice to the Provinces which came in later. Take this by way of illustration: If the amount to be placed at the credit of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick should average \$1.50 a head of the whole population, then, by the amended Resolution, the Provinces of Prince Edward Island, British Columbia and Manitoba will receive that \$1.50 a head upon their population of 1881. If upon the population of 1881, collectively, of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, it amounts to \$1.50, it will be added to the other Provinces in proportion. As Prince Edward Island only came into the Union in 1873, it would receive nothing under the Resolution as it stood before.

Mr. BLAKE. It is quite clear that the original Resolution was quite indefensible.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. Yes; because it did not carry out what the intention of the Government was on the subject.

Motion agreed to.

CIVIL SERVICE ACTS AMENDMENT.

Mr. CHAPLEAU moved that the House, to-morrow, resolve itself into Committee of the Whole to consider the following Resolution:—

[That it is expedient that a sum of \$500 be appropriated for the payment of the salary of a clerk to assist the Civil Service Board of Examiners; and to provide for the salaries of the Assistant Post Office Inspectors at the sum of \$1,200 on their appointment, with an annual increase of \$50, to a maximum of \$1,600; also for the salaries of Superintendents of Letter Carriers at \$600, with an annual increase of \$40, to a maximum of \$800; Mail Transfer Agents \$400, with an annual increase of \$40, to a maximum of \$600; also to provide for a salary of \$360, instead of \$300, for letter carriers, messengers, box collectors and packers.

Motion agreed to.

PUBLIC ANALYSTS.

Mr. COSTIGAN moved that the House, to-morrow, resolve itself into Committee of the Whole to consider the following Resolution:—

That it is expedient to provide that the Governor in Council may cause such remuneration as he deems proper to be paid to the Analysts appointed under the Bill now before the House for the prevention of adulteration of food and drugs, and such remuneration, whether by fees or salary, or in part by both, may be paid to them out of any sums voted by Parliament for the purposes of the said Bill.

Motion agreed to.

SUPPLY—THE COUNTY JUDGE OF ELGIN.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY moved that the House again resolve itself into Committee of Supply.

Mr. WILSON. Before you leave the Chair, Sir, I desire to call the attention of the House to a matter which, although somewhat personal to myself, is also one of public importance—I refer to the repeated applications I have made requesting that a return be brought down of the petitions and