

another section. He explained that the law, as at present, worked unjustly against the class of persons referred to, and he thought they should be allowed the privilege suggested, so long as they paid the average school rate of the section to which they desired to send their children.

Mr. CROOKS said the law, as at present constituted, was to protect school sections against non-residents who held only nominal holdings, and claimed the privilege of sending their children to the school free. He intended to introduce in his bill all the amendments necessary to remedy the injustice complained of, with other improvements, and he therefore requested the hon. member to allow his bill to stand.

Mr. YOUNG was glad the Minister of Education saw his way clear to adopt the amendment suggested.

Mr. MEREDITH said that as a Government measure was to be brought down, he would suggest that the matter of collecting school rates within union sections should also be dealt with.

Mr. ROSS suggested that when amending the law, the Minister should provide that the assessor, when taking the assessment should take the census of the school population. This would save money, as the census could be made available for the purpose of calculating the Government grant.

Mr. COOK suggested that the election of school trustees should be held on the same day as the municipal elections.

The bill was withdrawn.

THE MUNICIPAL ACT.

Mr. GIBSON (Hamilton) moved the second reading of the bill to amend the Municipal Act. The bill provided first for the extension of the clause of the Act providing for the payment of a reward of \$20 to persons capturing a horse thief to City Councils. This extension was desirable in view of the large number of persons in his constituency who made it a profession to catch horse thieves; they thought they should receive the reward for a capture in a city just as they would be entitled to it if they made a capture in a county. The second clause of the bill had reference to the building of bridges between municipalities by the two municipalities conjointly. The clause going before the Committee would result in settling a disputed point.

Mr. MEREDITH said the last clause dealt with a subject well worthy of the consideration of the Government.

The bill was referred to the Municipal Committee.

Mr. Nairn's bill was referred to the same Committee.

On motion of the Attorney-General, Mr. Wood's name was added to the Municipal Committee; and on motion of Mr. Meredith, Mr. White was placed on the Committee.

Mr. HAY moved the second reading of his bill respecting tile stone and timber drainage, and its reference to the Municipal Committee. He proposed in the bill to provide that the Tile Drainage Act should deal with underdrainage, and refer not only to rural municipalities, but to towns and villages.

Mr. MEREDITH took exception to the second clause of the bill, which provided for the investment of funds of the Province. Such a provision, according to the rules of Parliament, must originate, not with a private member, but with the Lieut.-Governor by message.

Mr. MOWAT said the bill had better stand.

The bill of Mr. Hay to amend the Act to prevent the spreading of Canada thistles was read a second time and referred to the Municipal Committee.

MR. COOK'S BOOM.

The House went into Committee on the bill to amend the Free Grant and Homestead Act.

The bill passed up to the fifth clause when,

Mr. PARDEE introduced an amendment, the object of which was to provide that lumbermen when removing pine from the settlers' land should, in the language of the amendment, "do no unnecessary damage."

Mr. COOK—"That's very ambiguous; I would like to have an explanation of that."

Mr. LAUDER—"Its too bad that the Commissioner of Crown Lands should restrict the lumbermen. Does the Commissioner mean to say that he is not going to

allow them to do damage to the standing crops?

The bill passed through committee.

THE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

The House went into committee on the bill respecting the Agricultural College. (Mr. Wood.)

It was amended so as to provide for the study of horticulture and arboriculture at the College.

The bill passed through committee.

LAND SURVEYS.

The bill respecting land surveyors and the survey of lands—(Mr. Pardee)—passed through committee.

The House adjourned at six o'clock.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES.

MONDAY, Feb. 2.

PRIVATE BILLS.

WITHDRAWAL OF THE BILL TO DIVIDE THE COUNTY OF YORK.

At the Private Bills Committee the bill to provide for the division of the county of York was withdrawn. The introducer of the bill was Mr. Widdifield. It would have been waste of time to have pressed the measure, as the Government has declared that it was the intention to pass no bills this session having for their object the formation of new counties.

The following bills passed:—

To legalize the assessment and certain by-laws of the City of St. Catharines.

To limit the borrowing powers of the English Loan Company, so that the outstanding debentures shall not exceed the amount of the subscribed capital stock.

To amend the Act incorporating the William Hall Peterborough Protestant Poor Trust.

To more accurately define the boundaries of the town of Woodstock.

BRUCE RAILWAY TO CHANGE ITS GAUGE—A LINE TO BE BUILT FROM MINDEN TO TRADING LAKE.

At the Railway Committee the bill first taken up was that of the Victoria Northern Extension railway. The bill provided for the incorporation of a company to construct a railway from some point on the Victoria railway to the village of Minden, and thence to Trading Lake. The bill passed.

The bill to amend the several acts relating to the Toronto, Grey and Bruce railway, the object of which is to allow the company to re-arrange its affairs, to change the gauge of the line, to put the road on an efficient basis, and to build a branch to Wingham, was passed and ordered to be reported.

Wood

Railways