

# ONTARIO LEGISLATURE

## Fifth Parliament—Second Session.

(By Our Own Reporters.)

Tuesday, Feb. 10.

The Speaker took the chair at 3 o'clock.

### PETITIONS.

Among the petitions presented were a number praying for the simplification of the land laws; two for the division of Algoma into two electoral districts; and two or three asking Government aid to county poor houses.

The SPEAKER read rule 91, showing that it was contrary to the rules of the House to make such grants as were asked for in the last named petitions.

### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

The first report of the Committee on Standing Orders was presented by Mr. Widdifield, (chairman); also that of the Private Bills Committee, by Mr. Gibson, (Hamilton). Both were adopted.

### FIRST READINGS.

Mr. Monk—A bill to incorporate the Longue Pointe Company.

Mr. Monk—A bill to divide Wellington Ward in the City of Ottawa.

Mr. Young—A bill to legalize By-law 229 of the Council of Paris.

Mr. Cascaden—A bill to amend the Municipal Act.

Mr. Phelps—A bill to empower the trustees of the estate of the late Joseph C. Spragge, to sell certain lands in the Township of Bleinhem.

Mr. Ermatinger—A bill to consolidate the floating debt of the City of St. Thomas.

Mr. Gibson—A bill to amend the act relating to the Hamilton Water-Works.

Mr. McIntyre—A bill to authorize the sale of certain lands in the county of Elgin.

Mr. White—A bill to empower the Board of Examiners for the appointment of Land Surveyors to admit J. C. Crawford.

Hon. O. Mowat—A bill respecting Methodist Church cemeteries.

Mr. McIntyre—A bill to legalize and declare valid certain by-laws of the town of Windsor.

Hon. A. S. Hardy—A bill to amend the Act incorporating the Dean and Chapter of St. Alban the Martyr.

Mr. Meredith—A bill to amend the Act incorporating the St. George's Society of Toronto.

### THE GAME LAWS.

Hon. O. MOWAT, in answer to Mr. Phelps, stated that it was not the intention of the Government to amend the game laws so as to prevent the running of deer with dogs, but he understood that such bills would probably be introduced by private members, and if that were done they would receive his best consideration.

### A POINT OF ORDER.

Mr. MEREDITH handed to the Clerk a paper which he stated to be a certified copy of the report of the Judges of the Court of Appeal in the East Simcoe contested election case, and which he wished to read.

Hon. C. F. FRASER rose to a point of order.

Mr. SPEAKER—The course pursued by the hon. gentleman in seeking to lay upon the table an official document is irregular, and is not warranted by Parliamentary practice. It would have been in order for a member of the Executive Council to have placed upon the table an official document from which he was about to quote.

Hon. C. F. FRASER—No private member has authority to lay a paper upon the Clerk's table and demand to have it read.

Mr. MEREDITH quoted the course in the case of Riel. Mr. Mackenzie, when leader of the Government, took up the matter when Riel was elected as member for Provencher and laid upon the table the sentence of the court in Manitoba declaring Riel outlawed. That was the proper course and he was taking the same course.

Mr. SPEAKER—I cannot see any identity in the cases quoted. Mr. Mackenzie was a member of the Executive, and as such could bring down a paper in the ordinary way.

Mr. MEREDITH contended that Mr. Mackenzie had acted in his capacity of a private member and not as leader of the Government. He knew of no right which gave the members of the Government special authority to lay papers on the table of the House. If any other course were taken the majority could prevent any such a case coming before the House.

Hon. C. F. FRASER—Could not a member move for the record to be brought down?

Mr. MEREDITH—That is the course I am taking.

Mr. SPEAKER—Will the hon. gentleman refer to the cases.

Hon. C. F. FRASER—It is stated in the Journals of the Ottawa House, "Mr. Mackenzie, Lambton, member of the Queen's Privy Council," showing that it was in his official capacity he acted.

Mr. MEREDITH—That is the way he is always spoken of.