

The House adjourned at 6:20.

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE

Fifth Parliament—Second Session.

(By Our Own Reporters.)

Tuesday, Feb. 21.

The Speaker took the chair at three o'clock.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Hon. T. B. PARDEE presented the third report of the Committee on Railways.

Mr. GIBSON (Hamilton) presented the fourth report of the Committee on Private Bills.

FIRST READINGS.

Mr. Gibson (Hamilton)—To amend the Ontario Joint Stock Companies Bank Act.

Mr. Robillard—To amend the Municipal Act.

Mr. Mackenzie—To amend the Bridges and Watercourse Act.

Mr. Harcourt—To amend the Revised Statutes respecting Joint Stock Companies.

Mr. Baxter—An Act respecting the Study of Anatomy.

REPORTS.

Hon. C. F. FRASER presented the report of the Commissioner of Crown Lands for 1884, the report of the Inspectors of Asylums and Charitable Institutions with respect to Hospitals; and the report of the Queen's Printer with respect to the sessional papers of 1884.

SECOND READINGS.

Hon. G. W. Ross—To consolidate and amend the Public Schools Act.

Hon. G. W. Ross—To amend and consolidate the High Schools Act.

THE MUNICIPAL LOAN FUND.

Hon. A. M. ROSS—Respecting the amounts past due and payable by certain municipalities upon the settlement made by the Statute of their debts to the Municipal Loan Fund. He said:—The Government by this Bill takes power to extend to certain municipalities now in arrears under the Municipal Loan Fund. As I stated before there are practically only two municipalities now indebted to the Province in any considerable amount; these are the town of Cobourg and the city of St. Catharines, and the former is the most affected by the Bill. It had been held to be unfair to Cobourg to call upon that municipality to pay the arrearages of interest in one year. A portion of the debentures issued by that municipality have been sold by the Government and a portion held. They are still in the Provincial Treasury, and the interest on the latter has not been met. We have frequently urged upon them the necessity for paying the amount, and pleas have been put forward that they were unable to pay, and the Government