

Fifth Parliament --- Third Session.

Our Own Reporters.)

WEDNESDAY, March 24.

The Speaker took the chair at 3 p.m.

PETITIONS.

Mr. FRASER presented petitions from certain property-owners on the Esplanade.

PRINTING COMMITTEE.

Mr. BAXTER presented the fourth report of the Committee on printing.

THE MUNICIPAL BILL.

The Bill to amend the Municipal Act was referred back to Committee of the Whole.

Mr. FERRIS moved that the clause added on the previous evening, referring to the procedure under the local improvement plan, be erased, and that instead thereof a clause be added placing leaseholders, holding leases for 21 years or more, in the same position as property-owners, so far as regards petitioning against local improvements when initiated by the Council. He explained that the clause inserted on the previous evening went a little further than this, and he thought should be withdrawn. The new clause embodied the result of an agreement between the parties who were concerned in the Esplanade question. The amendment was carried, and the Committee rose and reported the Bill.

On the motion for the third reading of the Bill,

Mr. MEREDITH moved that sections 15 and 17 of the Bill be struck out. These clauses impose upon the County Council the duty of maintaining bridges crossing rivers and streams over 100 feet wide within the limits of any town "not separated from the county," and connecting any main highway leading through the county. The amendment was lost on the following division:—

YEAS—Messrs. Blythe, Brereton, Broder, Carnegie, Clancy, Clarke (Toronto), Creighton, Denison, Ermatinger, Fell, French, Gray, Hammell, Harcourt, Hardy, Hess, Hudson, Kerns, Kerr, Lees, McGhee, McKay, Meredith, Morgan, Mulholland, Preston, Ross (Cornwall), White, Wilmot—29.

NAYS—Messrs. Awrey, Badgerow, Balfour, Ballantyne, Baxter, Bishop, Blezard, Caldwell, Cascaden, Chisholm, Dill, Drury, Dryden, Ferguson, Ferris, Freeman, Gibson (Hamilton), Gibson (Huron), Gillies, Gould, Graham, Hagar, Hart, Hawley, Laidlaw, Lyon, McIntyre, MacKenzie, McKim, McMahon, Master, Monk, Morin, Mowat, Murray, O'Connor, Pardee, Phelps, Rayside, Ross (Huron), Ross (Middlesex), Sills, Snider, Waters, Widdifield—45.

Mr. GILLIES moved an amendment imposing upon County Councils the duty of maintaining bridges crossing rivers or streams over 100 feet in townships.

The amendment was carried on the following division:—

YEAS—Messrs. Blezard, Blythe, Broder, Caldwell, Carnegie, Clarke (Toronto), Cook, Creighton, Denison, Dill, Ermatinger, Fell, French, Gillies, Gould, Gray, Hagar, Hammell, Hess, Hudson, Kerns, Kerr, Laidlaw, Lees, McGhee, McKim, Meredith, Monk, Morin, Morgan, Mulholland, Murray, Neelon, O'Connor, Phelps, Preston, Ross (Cornwall), Sills, Snider, Waters, White, Wilmot—42.

NAYS—Messrs. Awrey, Badgerow, Balfour, Ballantyne, Baxter, Bishop, Brereton, Cascaden, Clancy, Drury, Dryden, Ferguson, Ferris, Freeman, Gibson (Hamilton), Gibson (Huron), Graham, Hardy, Hart, Hawley, Lyon, McIntyre, McKay, MacKenzie, McMahon, Master, Mowat, Pardee, Rayside, Ross (Huron), Ross (Middlesex), Widdifield, Young—33.

The Bill was reported.

ASSIGNMENTS BY DEBTORS.

House in Committee on the Bill respecting assignments for the benefit of creditors.

Hon. O. MOWAT said that he had considered the suggestion of the member for London that an advance of goods should confer the same advantage upon a creditor as an advance of money, so far as the Bill was concerned, and that conference with business men had led him to the conclusion that the amendment would not be desirable. He proposed to amend the Bill by providing that where a new assignee was appointed a conveyance should not be necessary to vest the estate in him. The amendment was made.

Mr. GIBSON, of Hamilton, moved amendments providing that a notice of assignment should be published once in The Ontario Gazette and twice in the local paper, instead of four times in each as now provided, and that the assignee should make certain statements as to the position of the estate and declare dividends when he has sufficient funds, or when required by the inspectors.

The Bill was reported.

Mr. MEREDITH moved an amendment placing an advance of goods and other property to a debtor in the same position as money.

The amendment was lost on division and