

it the undertaking committee—is composed of Hon. Mr. Ross, Hon. Mr. Harcourt, Drs. McKay (Oxford), McMahon, Willoughby and Preston, and Messrs. Campbell (Durham) and Godwin.

Dr. McMahon's bill to amend the Municipal Act so that power may be given to municipalities to purchase land to procure stones and gravel with which to repair roads, also to extend to towns the local improvement system in the construction of sidewalks, was read a second time.

As there were no other private members' bills ready to go on with, the House adjourned until 3 o'clock to-day.

Private Bills Committee.

The Private Bills Committee evidently intends to make up for the delay caused by the sickness of their chairman. Col. Gibson was in his place at the head of the board yesterday and pushed business with his customary energy. Several bills had to be put over for want of full explanation. One of these was Mr. Mack's measure to consolidate the debt of the Town of Cornwall. Representatives of the Council will be on hand to-day to explain the bill. The Weston Road Company's bill proposes to renew the charter of that corporation, but Dr. Gilmour objected to the measure going through without full argument and it was postponed until the promoters should attend. There was nobody to take up the Home for Incurables Bill. Mr. McColl's bill to consolidate the debt of St. Thomas was not backed by sufficient information from the locality and it was put off that the city solicitor might attend. The bill respecting Woodstock was set for Wednesday. There was a long struggle over the bill respecting Port Arthur's debt. Mr. T. A. Gorham opposed certain features of the measure on behalf of the Fort William Street Railway Company. Port Arthur was represented by Mr. Conmee, who has the bill in charge, Mr. T. D. Delamere and Mr. F. H. Keefer, town solicitor. Considerable modifications were agreed upon and the bill comes up to-day for further consideration. Mr. Bronson's bill respecting the Ottawa St. Andrew's Society was passed, and, as is the rule in the case of charitable societies, the fees, except the cost of printing, were remitted.

Mr. Conmee has an important bill to bring before the committee at its meeting this morning—that to consolidate the laws affecting the municipality of Shuniah, which is composed of McGregor and McIntyre Townships and the "Island Ward," the islands near Port Arthur. One of the principal objects of this bill is to ratify what are called "tax titles." It is alleged that the title of the purchaser of land sold for taxes in the municipality is liable to be upset upon the discovery of a merely technical flaw in any of the proceedings by which he acquired the property. This naturally discourages improvement. The land being mineral land it may be found at any moment to be of great value, but the purchaser naturally hesitates to develop wealth which may be taken from him by the person who did not think enough of the property while he had it to pay the taxes upon it. Those who are most interested in the bill do not insist upon the provisions embodied in it, but say they are willing to accept any reasonable provision that will give them security of possession of property bought under the tax sale which is duly provided for by the Provincial statute.

A Parry Sound Deputation.

The deputation from the Villages of Burk's Falls, Maganetawan, McKellar and Dunchurch, to which reference was made in THE GLOBE yesterday, waited upon the Government before the session yesterday afternoon. The deputation was introduced by Mr. Sharpe, member for Parry Sound, and was accompanied by Mr. A. P. Cockburn and by Mr. S. Armstrong, ex-M.P.P., who represented the Village of McKellar. On it were:—Burk's Falls, M. C. Drew, D. F. Burk, R. H. Menzies, J. C. Mitchell, J. D. Reid, W. Sylvester, E. H. Smith, G. O. Smith, E. O. Taylor, Capt. Kennedy, F. Brasher and H. Knight; Maga-

netawan, John Arthurs, Neil McEachren, Alex. McLaughlin and Wm. Kirk; Ahmic Harbor, Chas. Crosswell and S. G. Ritter; Dunchurch, George McCormack, Wm. Robertson and R. Piper. They met the Attorney-General and Hon. Mr. Fraser and Hon. Mr. Hardy. What they asked for was a bonus for a spur railway line to connect the G.T.R. at Burk's Falls with the head waters of the Maganetawan River. The spur line will be one and a half miles long, and it will open up 35 miles of inland navigation. The Government promised consideration.

At Government House.

There were invited to dine last evening with the Lieutenant-Governor:—Hon. Oliver Mowat, Hon. John Dryden, Hon. E. H. Bronson, Dr. Widdifield, and the following members of the House:—J. Cleland, A. Miscampbell, Joseph Tait, J. W. Metcalfe, W. B. Wood, Dr. J. Baxter, G. Campbell, J. Magwood, H. McKenzie, W. D. Balfour, G. F. Marter, J. T. Whitney, Dr. J. McKay, A. Bishop, H. Smith, T. Wylie, J. Sharpe, W. M. Dack, W. Kerns, J. Hiscott, J. Davis, J. D. Moore, H. T. Godwin, W. P. Hudson, W. R. Paton, W. H. Biggar, R. McLenaghan, D. McColl, S. C. Carpenter, R. Ferguson, W. Monk, W. A. Charlton, J. A. Sprague and J. Waters, also Mr. Kivas Tully and Mr. Arthur H. Sydere.

The Poor School Grant.

Mr. Armstrong, reeve of Chaffey; Mr. Carmichael, reeve of Himsworth; Mr. Haight, barrister, Parry Sound; Sheriff Bettes, Huntsville; Mr. A. P. Cockburn, Mr. D. F. Burke and Mr. Silvester waited on the Minister of Education yesterday and made a strong plea for an increase of the poor school grant. Mr. James Sharpe, M.P.P. for the District of Parry Sound, who has a thorough knowledge of the educational difficulties of the district, introduced the deputation, and pointed out clearly the struggling condition of schools in new settlements, and suggested that each school should receive an additional grant of \$50 or \$60. The difficulties incidental to the formation of new school sections in a rough, hilly country, the heavy financial burden involved, and the higher duty of providing educational facilities in some fair degree in partially isolated settlements, were fully explained by several members of the deputation. Mr. John Armstrong, reeve of Chaffey, gave some striking details in regard to the difficulty of collecting taxes on non-resident lands. The Minister sympathised with the views of the deputation, and promised to lay the matter fully before the Attorney-General.

The Minister of Education's Bills.

Two bills were introduced by the Minister of Education yesterday. One relating to university federation enables the University of Victoria to grant degrees until 1893. It was thought when the last statute was passed that it would be sufficiently long to allow until 1891, but it is now found that the institution cannot be housed in its new home in Toronto until the time named in the present bill, 1893. The bill provides also that the Senate of Victoria may meet in Toronto. It has been held that a legal meeting can be held only in Cobourg, which is sometimes inconvenient.

Another bill of the Minister relates to the College of Dental Surgeons. At present under the law examinations must be by the board. The bill authorises the board to appoint examiners to examine candidates for the degree of L.D.S. or any other that the college has to give.

Mr. Ross has a number of important bills this session. It is believed that they are all now before the House except that to incorporate the chartered stenographers, to give to that body much the same standing as has been given to the chartered accountants.