

enough to show that he had given attention to his subject, and yet not longer than becomes a young member who has his position yet to make. He has a frank and pleasant manner, and yet in his speech shows an adroitness which usually comes only after long practice in Parliamentary speaking. One could well believe that he has earned the reputation he enjoys of being a powerful man in the canvass, a man who will make friends wherever possible. He began with compliments to the Treasurer, taking especial pride in that gentleman's able speech because he claimed the maker of the speech as one of his own constituents. He assured the House that Mr. Harcourt was a fair sample of the intelligence of the electors of Welland. The obvious inference that Mr. McCleary himself must have been a particularly eligible candidate for the House was not too closely pressed. The speaker went on to pay tribute to Mr. Harcourt's sense of honor and fair play and to declare that the new Treasurer's natural inclination would be always to give a fair and frank statement of the financial condition of the Province if he were left to himself. He was rather dubious, however, about the influence of certain people whom he had heard spoken of as the "wicked partners" in the Cabinet.

"That's the Attorney-General," suggested Mr. Harvey with a smile, which was boisterously echoed by those who heard the remark.

Mr. McCleary went on to accuse the supporters of the Administration of taking refuge behind the Dominion Government, and remonstrated with them for justifying their position by the deeds of those whose every act they condemned. He went out of his way to dilate upon the folly of making political prophecies apparently for no other reason than to tell how Mr. Hardy in a speech in his constituency had prophesied that Welland would stand fast by the Liberal cause. The story was rather spoiled by Mr. Hardy rising good-naturedly and denying that he had made such a prophecy or that he had made a speech in the riding, or that he had even visited the riding during the campaign. Explanations followed, which showed that, though announced, Mr. Hardy was unable to visit Welland, and that Mr. Wm. Paterson, M.P., had made a speech which was probably the one referred to. Mr. McCleary was in no wise discomfited, but with perfect good humor accepted the correction and continued his address. He accused the Government of partisanship in the administration of the License Act, and attributed the repeal of the Scott Act to the failure of the Government to properly enforce it. The criticisms of the Opposition, he contended, had already resulted in good, particularly in the matter of French in the schools. He made a rather warm declaration that this was a live question and would continue so until it was settled by the teaching of English in all the schools of the Province.

#### Mr. Waters.

Mr. Waters rose and was received with loud cheers. Unfortunately for him an arrangement had been made for an adjournment at 6 o'clock, and it was impossible for him before that hour to more than fairly commence his speech. He is a vigorous and incisive speaker, however, and he made several points in good style before he moved the adjournment of the debate. He showed that the Minister of Education had begun to act in the matter of English in the schools before the Opposition had learned that anything was to be done, and that before the last election English was taught in every school in the Province. He reminded the House of the fact that before the Government took action in the liquor license question by the passing of the Crooks Act there were many unlicensed grogeries, and that these had been completely routed out by a firm and judicious administration of the law. As to the subsidy matter, he repudiated the idea that it was in any way a dole from the Dominion, and declared it to be no more than the Province was entitled to in view of the large contributions of the people of Ontario to the revenues of the Dominion.

The debate was adjourned and made the first order of the day for to-morrow.

The House adjourned at 6 o'clock.

#### Mr. Dack's Bills.

Mr. Dack, the popular member for Centre Bruce, has two public bills before the Legislature, and they propose practical amendments to Acts that are of wide and general interest. Mr. Dack during the sessions of the last Legislature made for himself a prominent place in the House, so that at the opening of this session he was chosen to assist the Ministerial whip. He and Mr. Stratton of West Peterborough, both newspaper men, are among the few members of the Legislature who make inter-sessional tours through their ridings, addressing their constituents with respect to the sessions just past. The result in the case of each of them was shown at the last elections, when their seats, which they had in 1886 won by majorities of about 30, were secured to them, West Peterborough by 589 and Centre Bruce by 301.

One of Mr. Dack's bills, introduced on Thursday, is to amend the Public Health Act. It is to allow cases to be tried before one justice of

the peace instead of two as is now necessary. Many of the cases which arise under the Public Health Act are of such a nature that in a small place it is difficult to bring them to trial because of the reluctance of justices of the peace to deal with them. And inasmuch, Mr. Dack thinks, as cases of more importance may now be tried by one justice of the peace, his bill should recommend itself to the House. A bill introduced by him to-day proposes to amend the Masters and Servants Act. As the act is at present, if a servant has obtained judgment against a master he cannot issue an execution to recover the amount until 21 days have elapsed. This is often a hardship, and he proposes to reduce the time to five days.

#### Simcoe Street Property Owners.

A deputation of Simcoe street property owners waited upon the Attorney-General this afternoon with regard to the provision of the Montreal agreement between the city and the railways, which will close up the foot of Simcoe street. The deputation was composed of Ald. Carlyle, Messrs. F. T. Hutchinson, William Magill, O. A. Howland and R. B. Noble. They asked the assistance of the Government as a property holder on Simcoe street to fight against the adoption of the Montreal agreement. Mr. C. R. W. Biggar, city solicitor, who happened to be standing in the corridor when the property owners were addressing the Attorney-General, suggested that he set a day for hearing both sides of the question. Mr. Mowat for a moment seemed to think of this proposition. But it was urged that it was very desirable that a representative of the interests of the Simcoe street property owners go to Montreal to-night with the civic deputation to be present at the negotiations to-day, and he told the deputation to send some one to attend the negotiations, and the Government would pay its share of the cost.

#### Bicyclists Preparing to Fight.

Mr. C. Langley of the Toronto Bicycle Club and Mr. W. A. Hunter of the Wanderers' Bicycle Club, representing the Canadian Wheelmen's Association, were at the House this afternoon. The C. W. A. is determined to knock out Mr. Davis' bill with regard to bicyclists' liability for accidents from horses being frightened, and Messrs. Langley and Hunter, part of the committee appointed for that purpose, were up to-day making inquiries. They saw Mr. Tait, who promised to acquaint them of the date when the bill may be expected before the committee.

#### A Labor Deputation.

Mr. A. F. Jury, representing District Assembly 125, Knights of Labor, and Mr. D. J. O'Donoghue, secretary of the Legislative Committee of the Trades and Labor Council, saw Mr. Wood of Brant to-day with regard to his bill to oblige suitors for damages to put up security for costs. Mr. Wood consented to put in an exemption from the provisions of the act of all cases arising out of the Workmen's Compensation Act, the Ontario Factories Act and all suits for workmen's wages. Messrs. Jury and O'Donoghue also saw Mr. Tait and asked him to let them know of the day his bill to establish a college of embalming and organic chemistry will be taken up by the select committee. Mr. Tait promised to do so, and Messrs. Jury and O'Donoghue will attend and oppose it in their representative capacities.

#### Bills Introduced.

To give Municipal Councils the power to insure the property of ratepayers against fire is the object of a bill introduced by Mr. Monk this afternoon. A petition with reference to this matter was presented this afternoon from the Patrons of Industry of Simcoe. It asked that Township Councils may be empowered to take fire risks; that the officers of the township be the officers of the township fire insurance companies, with the addition of two inspectors.

The bill introduced by Mr. Balfour with respect to the Sandwich, Windsor & Amherstburg Railway provides for the increase of the capital stock and the extension of the time for the commencement and completion of the extensions thereof.

Dr. McKay (Victoria) introduced a bill to-day to consolidate the debt of the Town of Lindsay at the sum of \$152,000 and to authorise the issue of debentures to retire debentures amounting to \$141,740, and to pay off other debts amounting to \$10,260.

A bill with respect to the Canadian General Trusts Company, which was to-day introduced by Mr. Metcalfe, provides for the company, which is incorporated under the Dominion Parliament, coming under the laws of the Province of Ontario with regard to the execution of trusts, investment of capital, etc.

Mr. Waters introduced a bill to-day to amend the Assessment Act, which he had before the House two years ago and withdrew. It provides that on a two-thirds vote of any Village, Town or City Council land used for farming purposes within the municipal corporation may be exempted from taxation for payment for municipal improvements which can be shown not to benefit said land.

A bill introduced to-day by Mr. Whitney is intended to remedy a defect in the Ditches and Watercourses Act. At present there is no means by which a county engineer may increase his award if he finds that the estimate he has made with regard to rock-cutting is too small. The bill provides for an increase being made.

A bill to amend the act respecting cemetery companies was introduced to-day by Mr. Bronson. It gives the cemetery companies incor-

porated by special acts the authority enjoyed by companies under the general act of receiving bulk moneys for the perpetual care of plots or vaults.

#### The Speaker's Dinner.

Mr. Speaker gave a dinner this evening for which invitations were issued as follows:—Rev. Wm. Jones, Mr. A. H. Sydere, Hon. J. M. Gibson, Hon. A. S. Hardy, Mr. A. W. Ballantyne and the following members of the Legislature:—Dr. Gilmour, J. D. Moore, A. Robillard, S. White, J. H. Metcalfe, Dr. Willoughby, J. T. Garrow, W. B. Wood, A. Bishop, W. W. Meacham, J. A. Sprague, J. Waters, A. S. Allan, A. Evanturel, E. J. Davis, J. T. Whitney, G. F. Marter, C. Mackenzie, Dr. Wylie, Dr. McMahon, J. Fell, J. Rorke, J. F. Dowling, R. Ferguson.

#### Notes.

Mr. J. E. Lount, registrar of Bracebridge, was about the House to-day.

Messrs. Thos. Marks and T. Gorham of Port Arthur had a talk with the Attorney-General this afternoon.

Mayor Doherty, Reeve Manning, Clerk Coats and Mr. D. A. Forrester of Clinton are down on a deputation to attend upon the passage of a bill to consolidate the debt of that town.

Mr. Wilson, ex-M.P. for Lennox, visited the Legislature to-day and occupied a seat on the floor during the debate on the budget. Mr. Wilson claims that he was beaten by the lists in his county, his friends having paid little or no attention to the revision, believing there would be no election upon them, while the Liberals were as active as though an election was pending.

Mr. McCulla, ex-M.P. for Peel, was one of the visitors to the Legislature to-day.

Bruce County Council has sent in a petition, which was presented to-day by Mr. O'Connor, which prays that the Industrial Schools Act be amended so that no judge or magistrate shall commit any child to any industrial school at the expense of any municipality unless the municipality refuses to otherwise provide for it.

The Council of the Township of Blenheim, in Oxford County, today petitioned that the law with regard to bridge 100 feet long be not amended, as is proposed by a bill the petitioners understand will be brought before the House.

Interim estimates of \$300,000 were presented to-day to defray the expenses of the public service until the Supply Bill is passed.