

Embalming.

Mr. Tait's bill respecting undertaking, embalming and organic chemistry was taken up again this morning by the special committee to which it was referred. The committee is presided over by Mr. Tait, who holds the balance even between the strongly contending parties on either side. The promoters of the bill were present, headed by Mr. Hoyle, while the dissenting undertakers were ranged at one side, their spokesman being Mr. Ogden. The labor organisations were represented to-day for the first time, their spokesmen being Mr. D. J. O'Donoghue and Mr. A. F. Jury. Mr. O'Donoghue spoke strongly against the bill as giving advantages to a combine injurious to the public interest. Mr. Jury followed in a particularly able and interesting speech on the same line. He handled the question without gloves and gave a strong presentation of the case from the workingmen's point of view. He said that while it was pretended that this was an age of competition and individualism, trade after trade came and asked that so far as it was concerned the rule of competition should be done away with. While the workingmen were warned against Socialism they found that Socialism was in force in favor of certain parties while they were excluded from such benefits as it conferred. He asked why certain trades should be given the benefits of a close corporation while others were excluded. "The tailors, for instance," suggested the chairman, having perhaps Mr. Jury's trade in mind. "Or the bakers," added Mr. Jury, quickly returning the compliment. "Why," he went on, "I would undertake to get up a better case for the men who put down the sewers in this city than can be made out for the undertakers. We all know how necessary it is for the public health that we should have the sewers well made. Why not have every man who assists in making them pass an examination and receive a license?" He then took up the case against the Undertakers' Association, and quoted from their records and from published facts to prove that it was of the nature of a combine, and that the passing of this bill would strengthen that feature. A proposal had been made for a conference between the two sides in the undertaking profession. There was a consensus of opinion in the committee that the bill should not exclude from the proposed corporation any of those now engaged in the business. In the case of the College of Pharmacy, incorporated about eighteen years ago, all then in the business were left eligible for membership. Mr. Ogden made the recognition of this feature, so far as those he represented, a condition of the conference. After some discussion the conference was agreed to, and the committee adjourned till Tuesday next, when the agreement, if any is reached, will be considered.

Weeds and Gensing.

The committee to consider Mr. Wood's (Brant) bill respecting noxious weeds and Mr. Caldwell's bill for the protection of gensing met this morning, Mr. Wood presiding. Difficulties were pointed out by Hon. Mr. Dryden in carrying out the proposed law respecting noxious weeds, and the first clause providing for the destruction of such was, on consideration, struck out, on the ground that it could not well be carried into effect. It was found impossible to make smut amendments as would meet the views of all, and the further consideration of the measure was postponed. The gensing bill was passed without amendment.

County Bridges.

A deputation from Oxford, consisting of Mr. Warren Totten, Q.C., ex-Warden Nancekeville and Mr. D. R. Calder, reeve of East Nissouri, waited upon the Government yesterday to urge a change in the law respecting bridges. At present bridges of 100 feet are to be constructed and maintained by the county, and these delegates representing Oxford, except Blenheim Township, ask that the counties be relieved of this burden. Dr. McKay of Oxford will introduce a bill to change the law in conformity with the wishes of the deputation.

Bills Introduced.

The time for introduction of private bills has passed, but the introduction of new public bills continues in undiminished flow. Besides the bills introduced by the Attorney-General, which are referred to elsewhere, there were some which were of considerable importance. Mr. Tait introduced a bill on behalf of Mayor Clarke, who was absent, which provides that in the voters' lists it shall be indicated opposite the names of voters entitled to vote in municipal elections whether they are supporters of Public or Separate Schools.

Mr. Tait introduced several bills to amend the Municipal and Assessment Acts, several of which are in the line of requests made by and on behalf of workingmen. The first of these makes the polling in municipal elections close at 7 o'clock instead of 5 o'clock as at present. Another bill is to amend the Municipal Act so as to give to municipal corporations power to establish technical schools for the training of artisans and tradesmen. A

third bill by Mr. Tait amends the Assessment Act so as to allow assessors to make their assessment between June 1 and September 30 instead of between July 1 and September 30. A fourth bill makes provision for the registration by simple and convenient process of land improvement debentures.

Dr. McKay presented the bill referred to elsewhere to repeal the law of last session making bridges of 100 feet in length county bridges. The bill makes an exception in the case of bridges in towns of 4,000 inhabitants and others.

Mr. Awey presented a bill providing that appeals may be made from the decision of a County Court judge in assessment matters to the Court of Appeal of the Province.

High School Preparatory Class.

A deputation of gentlemen interested in the continuance of the preparatory class in the Jarvis Street Collegiate Institute waited upon the Government last evening and urged that legislation compelling the abolition of these classes be not adopted. The deputation consisted of Messrs. Waring Kennedy, James Lobb, Principal MacMurchy and Angus MacMurchy. Mr. Kennedy stated the case and presented a memorial signed by a large number of prominent citizens praying that the preparatory forms be allowed to continue. Hon. Mr. Mowat and Mr. Ross were specially interested in the arguments presented and promised to give the subject a careful consideration.

Sudbury's Protest.

Mr. James B. Hammond, chemist and metallurgist of Sudbury, arrived in the city yesterday. Mr. Hammond is the special delegate of the people of Sudbury to urge modifications in the mining bills. The main point objected to is the proposal to charge a royalty for the Province on minerals taken out on locations to be patented in the future. He brings with him a numerous signed petition and also a large number of copies of a supplement to the local newspaper containing letters from prominent men interested in mining strongly urging a reconsideration of the royalty clauses. Among those who sign these letters are Mr. Hammond himself; Mr. James Stobie, the well-known miner and prospector; Mr. F. L. Sperry, late chemist with the Canadian Copper Company; J. R. Gordon, C.E., W. De Morest, Provincial land surveyor, and others. These sheets are intended especially for distribution among the members of the House that they may be made acquainted with the feeling in Sudbury and district and with the arguments the people there have to present against the proposed royalties.

Notes.

Mr. John Hargraff, M.P., West Northumberland, was on the floor of the House this afternoon, as also was W. Kerr, Q.C., ex-M.P., of Cobourg.

Archie McNee of The Windsor Record was at the Legislature to-day. He met with a warm welcome among his confreres of the press, with whom he is highly popular.

A deputation consisting of Hon. Edward Blake, chancellor of Toronto University; Mr. Wm. Mulock, M.P., vice-chancellor, and Sir Daniel Wilson, president of University College, waited upon the Government yesterday in reference to financial matters connected with the university.

Dr. A. F. Rogers, Ottawa; Dr. Day, Trenton; Dr. Thorburn, Dr. R. A. Pyne and Mr. Wallace Nesbitt were the members of a deputation who waited upon the Government with reference to proposed amendments in the Medical Act. They conferred also with Dr. McKay, who has in charge a bill which is to embody the desired changes.

Among the petitions presented to-day was one brought in by Mr. Ferguson from the Council of Harwich Township, praying for power to sell certain lands, ten acres in extent, in the Village of Shrewsbury, which land comprises the market square and the court house reserve, and has been occupied, as represented by the petition, by squatters for twenty years free of rent and taxes.

Dr. Landerkin, M.P. for South Grey, was a visitor at the Legislature to-day. The doctor is one of the most popular men in political life, and hundreds of his friends all over the country watched with indignation the attempt to deprive him unfairly of the seat he had so gallantly won in the late election. He was warmly welcomed by his friends in the House, and cordially congratulated upon his victory.

The Public Accounts Committee met this morning with the expectation of examining Mr. Smith, superintendent of colonisation roads. But as the Commissioner of Crown Lands desired to hear the evidence given, and as he could not attend this morning, the taking of Mr. Smith's statement was postponed, and the members of the committee spent the time in the examination of vouchers for public expenditure.

Notices of Motion.

Mr. Miscampbell—Bill to amend the Municipal Act.

Mr. Wylie—Return of copies of all papers respecting the deepening of the Nattawasaga River; also showing the amount of money expended upon such works.

Mr. Balfour—Return of copies of all correspondence between the members of the Government and other parties on the subject of the alleged education of medical students in part at the public expense by the payment to members of one medical faculty of fees received from students for teaching done by professors and lecturers whose salaries are paid entirely out of the funds of the Provincial University.