

*Globe, Apr 22nd*  
*→ Deputation*

vate Bills Committee, moved the reference back to the committee of the City of Toronto Bill. He explained that while the agreement between the Belt line and the city had been settled in principle, details were left to be arranged. The representatives of the parties had met in his office, but had failed to reach an agreement. A deputation had waited upon him seeking amendment of the Ashbridge's Bay clause and another respecting the Don improvement clauses. One of the Toronto members had given notice respecting one of the by-laws adopted. He thought it would be more advantageous to have the discussion in the committee, as outside parties would desire to be represented.

Mr. Meredith said plumply that it seemed to him the object was to have the committee reverse its action with reference to certain clauses (he did not mention which), and he did not agree that such action should be taken at this time without notice and in the absence of the promoter. He objected to the resolution, and though the matter was discussed for some time he declined to withdraw his objection. Under the rules, no notice having been given, the resolution could not be put. Mr. Gibson said he would give notice and have the matter brought up as soon as possible.

The House adjourned at midnight.

#### The Attorney-General's Bills.

The Attorney-General introduced four bills this afternoon. One of them is a proposed amendment to the election law. It provides that no person shall be entitled to vote at any election unless his name is on the voters' list, properly certified by the county judge. Any person whose name has been omitted by mistake from the copy in the hands of the returning officer or deputy returning officer may tender his ballot, it being necessary for him to show that his name appears on the certificated list. Section two provides that lawful accounts sent in after a month from the election may be paid with the approval of the county judge, who must also approve of the advertisement of the payment in the local press. Any person shall be entitled to receive from the clerk of the peace of the municipality a copy of the statement of the alterations and corrections made by the county judge to the voters' list.

The Attorney-General introduced a measure providing for the settlement of questions between the Governments of Canada and Province of Ontario, authorising the Lieut.-Governor in Council to enter into an agreement with the Dominion with respect to matters the details of which are set forth in a schedule attached to the bill.

Another bill was one respecting mortgages and sales of personal property in Manitoulin Island. It provides for the registration of chattel mortgages on the Island with the deputy clerk of the District Court at Gore Bay.

His bill for the relief of medical practitioners in the Rainy River district is to allow them to register in Ontario. Before the boundary award was made there were in the disputed territory several medical practitioners who had been licensed in Manitoba. The settlement of the boundary question left these gentlemen practising their profession in Ontario and under the authority of the Province of Manitoba. Mr. Mowat's bill authorises all such to register in Ontario.

#### Public Accounts.

Mr. R. Christie, inspector of asylums and prisons, was before the Public Accounts Committee this morning and the whole time of the meeting was spent in listening to his explanations of the affairs under his charge. He was questioned by Messrs. Kerns, Clancy, Marter, White, Mackenzie (West Lambton) and Awer, and the chairman, Col. Clarke. The evidence related wholly to the purchase of supplies for the public institutions. Wherever possible commodities are bought by contract after tenders having been duly advertised for, but certain articles in which qualities or prices vary greatly were bought by the bursars under the check of the inspector. Mr. Christie explained that he kept himself informed by means of market reports and price lists of the state of the market in the case of the articles usually required, and, where he deemed it necessary, he made special inquiry of merchants. He admitted that market reports were sometimes wrong, and Mr. Clancy pressed him hard to say that he relied after all upon the bursars for his information. This he would not do, however, insisting that with his experience for many years as a lumberman, buying all sorts of articles for the supply of camps, and in his ten years' tenure of his present office, he was able to judge independently of the state of the market, guided by such means as he took to keep himself informed. Mr. Clancy did not allege any case of extravagance, though he stated that there was a general impression that the prices paid in some cases were too high. Mr. Christie stated frankly that he favored friends of the Government, other things being equal, but that he had never known a case in which any friend of the Government had received more than the market rate for any commodities. Mr. Christie was asked for particulars concerning certain expenditures, and these particulars he will give at a subsequent meeting of the committee after having looked up the papers in his department.

#### A Fruit Growers' Experimental Station.

A deputation of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association waited upon the Minister of Agriculture this morning. It was composed of Secretary Pettitt, Grimsby; Mr. Smith, another well-known fruit grower of the Niagara district; Mr. McD. Allan of Toronto, and others. They asked that the Government establish an experimental station somewhere on the Niagara peninsula for testing fruit trees, flowers, shrubs, etc. This proposition was discussed at the last meeting of the association held at Hamilton. The fruit growers represent that the experiments at Guelph are not of much use in more southerly parts of the Province. They want the proposed station to be placed under the control of the association. They estimate that it will cost from \$9,000 to \$10,000 the first year and from \$3,000 to \$4,000 a year afterwards for its maintenance, from which cost, however, may be deducted \$2,000 or \$3,000 a year of an anticipated revenue. The proposition was taken into consideration.

#### Development of Belmont Mines.

A deputation representing the provisional directors of the Ontario, Belmont & Northern Railway Company interviewed the Attorney-General and Hon. Mr. Hardy after the House rose at 6 o'clock this evening. Messrs. J. T. Sill of New York, T. D. Ledyard, Douglas Armour and E. Bristol of Toronto formed the deputation and asked Government assistance for the building of a line of railway from lot nineteen, Township of Belmont, in the County of Peterborough, to a point on the Central Ontario Railway adjacent to the Village of Marmora, in the County of Hastings, a distance not exceeding nine miles. Valuable deposits of magnetic iron essential to the manufacture of Bessemer steel have been discovered in the northern part of Belmont and particularly in lot nineteen. The proposed railway is intended to give an outlet to the mining operations which are promised in the event of its being built. The total amount of aid asked of the Government is \$25,000 or \$3,000 a mile. The expenditure is estimated at \$15,000 a mile. The concise statement which Mr. Bristol, on behalf of the deputation, read, further stated that if the railway is built the Belmont Bessemer Ore Company—a company with a subscribed capital of \$600,000, of which \$25,000 is paid up—is bound by a written contract to take out and ship from lot nineteen 30,000 tons of iron ore at least per annum for a period of twenty years. Furthermore, the promoters of the Belmont Bessemer Ore Company, having expended \$5,000 in testing the extent and quality of the deposit on said lot, declares that if the ore continues to be of the standard of the ore tested it proposes to take out and ship 250,000 tons of ore per annum, which would itself involve the employment of 800 men. The railway company is willing to guarantee in a satisfactory way the construction and operation of the road if the aid asked be given.

Mr. Ledyard had some specimens of ore with him which Messrs. Mowat and Hardy examined.

Mr. Blezard, in whose constituency the Belmont mines are, introduced the deputation to the Attorney-General. The member for East Peterboro' is an untiring representative and during the session has been of signal service to his constituents. It was only by unusual diligence and diplomacy that he and Mr. Stratton, member for the west riding, succeeded in saving the County of Peterboro' from a part of the cost of the Trent Narrows and Kilmount bridges by the defeat in committee of Dr. Willoughby's bill.

With today's deputation were these members of the House whose ridings are interested:—Messrs. Stratton, Sprague, Wood (Hastings) and Biggar. The Attorney-General made the usual assurances of consideration.

#### Eastern Dentists' Deputation.

A large deputation of representatives of the Eastern Ontario Dental Association waited on the Minister of Education with regard to amendments they want in the Dental Act. For many years the eastern association have wanted an amendment to the act that will allow vote by ballot for members of the council instead of the present system of verbal vote. The present system, they say, results in the distant parts of the Province being unrepresented and the control of affairs being left in the hands of the Toronto wing of the profession. They were given to understand that the bill to amend the act which Mr. Ross has introduced would satisfy them, but finding that all this measure dealt with was the holding of examinations and the appointment of examiners of the Dental College, the eastern association sent around the Fiery Cross and this deputation came up hastily to see about it.

They were:—Messrs. J. H. Parnell, president; A. T. Pearson, secretary; John Robinson, George Hutchinson, S. S. Davidson, Ira Bower, J. C. Bower, J. A. Armstrong, M. G. McElhinney, all of Ottawa City, and G. E. Hannah of Kemptville. They conferred with Mr. Wood, president of the Ontario Dental Association, and Dr. Wilmot, secretary of the association, and with Messrs. Bronson, Robillard, Preston and Bush, members from the East. The result was that the bill now before the House will go along as it is with the understanding that next session a bill will be introduced to give vote by ballot and to divide the Province into seven territorial districts, each