

WOMEN AS SOLICITORS.

When the House was in committee on Mr. Balfour's bill to provide that the Law Society may make rules for the admission of women to practise as solicitors, Mr. Meredith moved that the committee rise without reporting the bill. He objected to the matter being left in the hands of the Law Society, and claimed that if women were allowed to practise as solicitors they would also have to be allowed to practise as barristers, and their right to sit upon the bench would have to be conceded.

Mr. Wood (Hastings) approved of the measure, and also of making the law so that the Law Society would have no choice in the matter.

Mr. Mowat said that so far as he was personally concerned he would be willing to admit women to the practice of law absolutely, but as this was not the feeling of the House a compromise was decided upon, leaving the matter to the decision of the Law Society.

Mr. Meredith and Mr. Whitney claimed that the discretionary power of the Law Society was not made clear enough, but Mr. Hardy contended that the wording was sufficiently explicit. The bill was reported.

Other bills passed in committee were:— "To amend the act respecting wages," Mr. Biggar, and "to amend the act respecting building societies," Mr. Dack.

Some discussion arose on Mr. Awrey's bill "to amend the act respecting the law of landlord and tenant" (an amendment to the present law exempting monthly tenants to the extent of only one month's rent in making seizure of their goods). Mr. Awrey submitted an amendment making the term to be exempted two months, and the bill passed with this change.

The following bills received a third reading:—To amend the act respecting wages—Mr. Biggar. To amend the act respecting joint stock companies for supplying cities, towns and villages with gas and water—Mr. Guthrie. To amend the act to encourage the destroying of wolves—Mr. Sharpe. Respecting sheriffs' offices—Mr. Clarke. To amend the Timber Slide Companies Act—Mr. Rayside. To amend the act respecting dentistry—Mr. Allen. To amend the act respecting building societies—Mr. Dack.

When the House resumed in the afternoon Mr. Waters withdrew his bill to enable married women to vote for municipal officers. Mr. McColl's bill to amend the Registry Act was withdrawn because the matter was already dealt with in another bill. Mr. Guthrie's bill to amend the act respecting municipal institutions in the outlying districts was read a second and third time.

THE INSURANCE BILL PASSED.

Mr. Gibson moved the third reading of the insurance bill. Mr. Meredith said he could not allow the bill to pass without entering his protest against the clauses prohibiting rebates, which he regarded as the worst kind of parental legislation. Why should not the insurance companies do as they think best? He believed the prohibition would injure the younger societies. He therefore moved that the bill be not read a third time, but be referred back to committee to strike out the clauses prohibiting rebates and differential rates of premiums, the same being in the opinion of the House an unwarranted and undesirable interference with the business of the companies.

Mr. Gibson said he would not repeat the arguments in favor of the clauses which he had used when introducing them, but would simply point out that the prohibition applied only to insurance over \$5,000.

The vote was then taken on Mr. Meredith's amendment, which was defeated by 28 to 47 on a party division, except that Mr. Kerns voted with the Government. The division was as follows:—

Yeas—Barr (Dufferin), Bush, Campbell (Algoma), Campbell (Durham), Clancy, E. F.

Clarka (Toronto), Fell, Glendinning, Godwin, Hammell, Hiscott, Hudson, McCleary, McColl, McLonaghan, Marter, Meacham, Meredith, Miscampbell, Monk, Preston, Reid, Rorke, Smith (Frontenac), Whitney, Willoughby, Wood (Hastings), Wylie—28.

Nays—Allan, Awrey, Balfour, Bishop, Blezard, Barr (Renfrew), Caldwell, Carpenter, Charlton, Chisholm, Cleland, Connee, Davis, Dowling, Dryden, Ferguson, Field, Garrow, Gibson (Hamilton), Gibson (Huron), Gilmour, Guthrie, Harcourt, Hardy, Harty, Kerns, Kirkwood, Lockhart, Loughrin, McKay (Oxford), McKay (Victoria), McKechnie, McMahon, Mack, Mackenzie, C., Moore, Mowat, Paton, Rayside, Ross, Sharpe, Snider, Sprague, Stratton, Tait, Waters, Wood (Brant)—47.

Mr. Meredith moved another amendment to strike out the sections providing for registration of insurance agents. This was lost by 30 to 46 on the same division as before, except that Mr. Kerns went back to the Opposition. Mr. Snider also voted against the Government and Mr. Dack arrived in time to vote.

Mr. Meredith said the effect of the bill would be to exclude friendly companies now doing lawful business which had commenced operations since March, 1890. He therefore moved an amendment that a section be added providing that any friendly society, incorporated by any British, colonial or foreign Legislature, and carrying on lawful business in the Province at the time of the passage of the act, shall be entitled to registration upon production of proof that it was so incorporated and has a bona fide membership in the Province of at least 250. His amendment was defeated by 29 to 47 on the same division as before, except that Mr. Snider voted with the Government.

Mr. Kerns moved in amendment that the fee charged life insurance companies working under a Dominion charter be \$25 instead of \$100. This amendment was defeated by 29 to 48 on the same division as the last, except that Mr. Biggar arrived in time to vote. The bill was then read a third time.

The bill to amend the Act Respecting the Law of Landlord and Tenant met with opposition from Mr. Meredith on its third reading. It passed, however, on a division of 39 yeas and 29 nays. The division was as follows:—

Yeas—Allan, Awrey, Barr (Dufferin), Bishop, Blezard, Bush, Barr (Renfrew), Caldwell, Carpenter, Charlton, Chisholm, Cleland, Dack, Dowling, Dryden, Ferguson, Field, Gibson (Hamilton), Gilmour, Guthrie, Harcourt, Hardy, Harty, Kirkwood, Loughrin, McKay (Oxford), McKechnie, Mack, C. Mackenzie, Miscampbell, Moore, Paton, Rorke, Ross, Sharpe, Smith (Frontenac), Stratton, Tait—39.

Nays—Balfour, Biggar, Campbell (Algoma), Campbell (Durham), Clancy, Davis, Fell, Garrow, Godwin, Hammell, Hiscott, Hudson, Kerns, Lockhart, McCleary, McColl, McKay (Victoria), McLonaghan, Marter, Meacham, Meredith, Monk, Mowat, Preston, Reid, Snider, Waters, Whitney, Wood (Hastings)—29.

The bill respecting the duty of sheriffs on arresting persons under civil process was read a third time.

When the third reading of "The Assessment Amendment Act, 1892," came up Mr. Clancy moved in amendment that it be referred back to be amended by striking out clause 4, which provides for the exemption of farm lands in towns and cities from certain assessments. The vote was taken on the amendment, which was defeated by a division of 40 to 29. The bill was then read a third time.

The bill to amend the act respecting the Township of Harvey and the bill to consolidate the act respecting the assessment of property were read a third time. The municipal amendment act of 1892 was reported. The speaker left the chair at 6.

AFTER RECESS.

After recess the bill to consolidate the acts respecting municipal institutions, passed committee and was read a third time. Mr. Balfour moved the third reading of his bill to enable women to practice as solicitors. Mr. Meredith objected and the members were called in. The third reading was carried by 49 to 27 on the following division:—