

mas 3

protect the motormen from rain and cold, to the City Engineer's satisfaction, and asserted that this would encumber the working of the railway's traffic. The agreement already made contains in full the bargain made between the company and the city, the petition stated, and any attempt of the city to enlarge or alter the terms of the agreement would be improper and against good faith. As for the contention that such protection is given in Ottawa, the company alleges that in Toronto the exigencies oblige them to have trailers as well as motors, and assert that with a vestibule such as is used in Ottawa it would be impracticable to work the two cars with safety; furthermore, the heavy traffic at certain periods of the day would occasion much delay, trouble and inconvenience under the vestibule system. It is further held that the vestibules would obstruct the view of the motormen, and in the streets more densely crowded than in Ottawa would be very dangerous. The climatic conditions of Ottawa and Toronto are different, and in Toronto there is no need for such protection. The company therefore asks the House to refuse the act requested by the city.

FIRST READINGS.

The following petitions received their first reading:—

To amend the municipal act—Mr. McKechnie.

To facilitate the administration of justice in the Rainy River District—The Attorney-General.

To amend the assessment act—Mr. Barr (Dufferin).

To amend the act respecting the registration of births, marriages and deaths—Mr. Field.

To amend the Division Courts act—Hon. Mr. Gibson.

To amend the municipal act—Mr. Allan.

THE SITE OF THE BUILDINGS.

Mr. Hammell asked by what title does the Province hold the plot of land on which the Legislative Assembly buildings are now situated.

The Attorney-General replied as follows:—The land referred to was formerly the property of the Provincial University; it is now the property of the Province, free from any trust, and the transactions by which it became so appear from the statutes, 43 Victoria, chapter 2, and 52 Victoria, chapter 53.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Mr. White asked how many of the Ayrshire cattle owned at the Agricultural College are used in the dairy department, and if otherwise how, and how many and which have shown tuberculosis by the test and have been isolated, and how isolated and how long? How many have been sold and returned?

Hon. Mr. Dryden replied as follows:—All the Ayrshire cattle owned at the Agricultural College are used in the dairy department. Four only have shown by the tuberculine test that the germs of the disease may exist. These are three heifer calves and one cow. Two of the heifers have been twice tested, showing a rise in temperature in both cases. The cow and the third heifer have been tested three times, showing the reaction the first and second time, but not the third. All the cattle showing by the test any indications of the disease have been isolated under the direction of Dr. Reed in a separate building. One animal, an Ayrshire bull calf, was sold to Mr. W. Woodley, Dundas, Ont., and afterwards, by consent, returned. This animal has since been tested and pronounced healthy.

MUNICIPAL TAXATION.

Mr. Clark (Lanark) moved for an order of the House for a return from each municipality in the Province, other than counties, showing the rate of taxation therein (1) for municipal purposes, (2) for school purposes, (3) total.

This was passed without opposition.

The other orders on the paper were rapidly run over, and the motion was made to adjourn. Before the adjournment, however, Mr. Marter asked when his Government House motion would be taken up. Sir Oliver was ready to fix Wednesday next as the date, but Mr. Meredith had been promised that day for his biennial sessions motion. The leader of the Opposition remarked, however, that he was not sure he could be in the city on that day, and so might be unable to bring on this motion, in which case there would be nothing to obstruct Mr. Marter's motion. He promised to let the Attorney-General know definitely later, and so the matter was left. Mr. Meredith asked when the bill respecting the readjustment of representation would come in, and was told that the Government could not say exactly, though Sir Oliver Mowat hoped that it would be some time next week. The House then adjourned.

More Information About the Tuberculosis at Guelph—A Quiet Day in the House—Bridges in the County of Grey.

Legislative Chamber, March 2.

The proceedings of the House to-day were very unimportant, routine work being transacted and a few questions answered by the Ministers. The most important of the day's happenings took place outside of the walls of the chamber. In the morning a Liberal caucus was held, at which the various questions which will be dealt with during the session were taken up and were fully and amicably discussed, satisfactory understandings being arrived at in each case. In the afternoon several important deputations called upon the Government, and were received in the Council chamber. The principal of these represented the causes of woman suffrage and the Saturday half-holiday.

PETITIONS PRESENTED.

Petitions were, of course, the first order of business when the House met. Mr. Meredith presented the London Real Estate Owners' Protective Association's petition, protesting against the action of the City Council and Water Commissioners in endeavoring to spend certain sums of money on the city waterworks system against the will of the ratepayers as expressed by popular vote, and asking the House to refuse to sanction the Council's request for authority to issue \$50,000 of waterworks debentures. Mr. Ferguson presented two petitions, one from the Kent County Council in favor of the abolition of the fee system and the substitution thereof of a salary system, and one from the Township of Zone in favor of local option in respect to the single tax. Mr. Godwin presented a petition from the County Council of Elgin in favor of a two cent a mile passenger rate on Ontario railways, with a cent and a quarter per mile for second-class passengers. Mr. Barr (Dufferin) presented the petition of the County Council of Dufferin in favor of triennial assessments with annual Courts of Revision. Mr. Clark (Lanark) presented a petition from the Town of Smith's Falls in favor of the taxation of places of worship. Mr. Clancy presented another petition from the County of Kent in favor of the abolition of the fee system. Mr. McColl presented a petition from the County of Elgin in favor of the powers conferred by section 52 of the consolidated assessment act being extended to townships; in favor of triennial township assessments, with annual Courts of Revision; and in favor of allowing townships to unite the offices of Treasurer and Collector. Dr. Ryerson presented the petition of Alexander Wallace and other citizens of Ontario in favor of public weigh scales.

AGAINST MOTORMEN'S SHELTERS.

Mr. Tait presented an important petition from the Toronto Railway Company. It recited that the City of Toronto is petitioning for an act to enforce the construction of the cars in such a manner as to