

same bill which had been up last session, and which had been held over for purposes of reference to the County Councils. Some suggestions had been made, but none radical or fundamental, showing that the bill met with general approval. A sub-committee of members specially interested in the subject would consider it.

Hon. Mr. Hardy's bill to consolidate and amend the drainage laws went through its second reading with the same ease. The Commissioner explained that there had been changes made in sections 57 to 65, which had been largely recast, section 63 being new. The subject in which the chief changes were made was the requiring of the sanction of referees in case of a work extending beyond the bounds of the municipality taking the initiative.

UPPER CANADA COLLEGE.

Hon. Mr. Ross moved the second reading of his bill respecting Upper Canada College. The bill was really a change in the management of the school in the direction of making it similar to that of the University of Toronto. The most important change was that allowing the U. C. C. Old Boys' Association to elect members to the Board of Management. Another change was the allowing the appointment of a bursar.

Mr. Balfour professed his opposition to the college on principle, and said he had hoped that it would be abolished. The last report of the college, with its deficit and the reasons assigned for it, the improvement of the High Schools and rival residential schools, were, in his mind, reasons for abolition. As for this bill, the Province's money would be to a certain extent controlled by these additional members of the board elected by a particular class. Mr. A. F. Wood objected to the mortgage powers embodied in the bill. Mr. Whitney came to the defence of the school, saying that it should be kept up properly. Mr. Waters and Mr. Clancy also spoke.

Hon. Mr. Ross made a spirited defence of the school. In the first place, this was not a grant of aid. The deficit last year had been paralleled in previous years when the college had its old endowment; the income has always fluctuated, and last year was a bad one for all such schools. Besides, the Minister declared, he believed in a diversified system of education; the rigid, inelastic, uniform State system, every school on exactly the same plan, was one in which he could not believe, for there were advantages in the opposite system which he wished Ontario to obtain. In any case, those who use the college are among the largest contributors to the High and Public Schools. Upper Canada College owes the Province nothing, while as for its equipment and efficiency he thought it would compare with the English Public Schools, while he was certain that there was no school to surpass it on the American continent. With regard to the appointment of the old boys, the college does not lack for friends, who will be stirred up to activity by this, and there are strong grounds for hoping for an endowment of \$10,000 in a few years. He was in favor of the school, and had no sympathy with the dead levelling system.

Hon. Mr. Gibson moved and obtained the second reading of his bill respecting mortgages and sales of personal property. He explained it very briefly, saying that it was a consolidation and revision of the law. Several important acts have been passed upon the subject of mortgages in the past few years, and this bill was designed to arrange them properly. There was some re-arrangement, section 6 of the present revised statute, relating to mortgages, securing repayment of advances and mortgages to secure mortgagees against endorsements, which is complicated and involved and difficult of clear interpretation, being divided into two sections, Nos. 7 and 8 of the new bill.

RONDEAU PARK.

Hon. Mr. Hardy moved the second reading of his bill to establish a Provincial park at Rondeau. He briefly explained the nature of the land and the beauty of the spot generally. It had remained in a state of nature, and would make a very beautiful park. No portion of it had been sold, and only one person had taken up his residence on it. He had erected some buildings, for which he would have, no doubt, to be reasonably compensated. Some of the timber upon the land was very valuable, and would be carefully preserved. The place abounded in fish and game, but it was not proposed to make it a fish or game preserve, though the law would be enforced during the close season. It was not proposed it lay it out as a shubbery, but simply to appoint a caretaker or ranger at a small expense to do what he could to make it habitable. Some ordnance lands were situated within the natural boundaries of the park, and these he hoped the Dominion Government would consent to add to the park.

Mr. Clancy approved of the bill, but hoped the caretaker or ranger who is to

look after the timber would not derive any benefit from any depredations that might be made. (Mr. Hardy—Hear, hear.) He thought the park would be a popular place of resort. He only hoped the regulations for the preservation of the timber would be very stringent.

Mr. Ferguson of East Kent also expressed his hearty approval of the bill. He endorsed the views of Mr. Clancy as to the necessity for stringent regulations in regard to timber.

Mr. Balfour thought nothing in the western section of the Province could have been more popular than the present proposal. He only wished Point Pelee in Essex County belonged to the Province instead of being ordnance land. He would have some hope then of that being converted into a park.

After some remarks by Mr. A. F. Wood Mr. White spoke. He objected that the park would require the appointment of an additional ranger; also that it indicated the possibility of the Province being daubed all over with parks, which was more than the Province could afford.

The bill was then read a second time.

LEGAL BILLS.

The Attorney-General moved the second reading of his bill to facilitate the administration of justice in Rainy River. He remarked upon the inconvenience attending the present system of the administration of justice. The main feature of the bill, it will be remembered, is that the Deputy Clerk of the Judicial District of

Thunder Bay shall be ex-officio local Registrar, and shall issue writs of capias and hold trials at Rat Portage; also the Stipendiary Magistrate of Rainy River to have similar powers to those of the Master in Chambers in proceedings determined in Chambers in Toronto. These changes, he thought, would be a great saving of expense and inconvenience to the population of this district.

The Attorney-General moved the second reading of his bill to extend the power of the High Court in respect of granting maintenance to infants. He explained that this was intended to give power to the High Court in certain cases, for want of which power cases of hardship sometimes arise. It is designed to allow the High Court to make provision for the maintenance and education of children who have an interest in property to which they will succeed on the death of a parent having merely a life interest in it.

The Attorney-General moved the second reading of his bill to enable married women under age to bar dower. The Attorney-General said the law allowed a woman to marry under age, but did not allow her to bar dower. Consequently great inconvenience occasionally resulted when a husband in such a case had property which he wished to dispose of and in which it was not possible for his wife to bar dower. He thought the House would agree that if a woman was old enough to marry she was old enough to bar dower.

The Attorney-General moved the second reading of his bill respecting certain duties of Coroners. He stated that under present circumstances if the Coroner calls an inquest and subsequently satisfies himself that there is no real need for it he cannot let it drop without forfeiting all claim to compensation for his trouble. This bill provided that in such a case the inquest may be dispensed with and a fee of \$5 given for the trouble of the preliminary proceedings. This would effect a saving, as under the present circumstances the Coroner, not infrequently to avoid loss, goes on with an unnecessary inquest. It would not apply to deaths in gaols, the inquest being necessary in such cases.

Dr. Barr was afraid this was but providing for unnecessary expense, but the Attorney-General pointed out that it would effect a saving in preventing unnecessary inquests.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT.

Hon. Mr. Bronson moved the second reading of his bill to amend the public health act. He explained that his bill was designed to permit hospitals for contagious diseases to complete their equipments, and also, in case of the first issue of debentures proving insufficient for the erection and equipment of the hospital, a second issue can be made. The bill was passed.

MR. WOOD AND MR. HARDY.

It was then moved to go into Committee of Supply. Before going in, Mr. A. F. Wood rose on a question of privilege. He had been unavoidably absent during Monday and Tuesday last, being obliged to be in Montreal in attendance on the Exchequer Court. While he was away Hon. Mr. Hardy and Dr. McKay had referred to him in terms which he thought should not have been used when he was not present. Attention had been paid to matters which were his own private business and the correctness of his figures had been questioned. His figures had been taken apart from his basis of calculation and