

## EVENING SESSION.

Four private bills were given their second reading when the House met after dinner—Mr. Middleton's bill to confirm by-law No. 755 of Hamilton, Mr. Moore's bill to confirm by-law No. 263 of the Village of Preston, Mr. Bennett's bill incorporating the Advent Christian Church, and Mr. Truax's bill enabling the Village of Teeswater to lease or sell certain lands. Public bills came next, and a large number were sent on to committee, the list being: Mr. German's bills amending the act respecting Coroners and to amend the assessment act, Mr. O'Keefe's bills to amend the assessment act and to amend the registry act, Mr. McKee's bill to amend the municipal act, Mr. Stratton's bill to amend the municipal act, Mr. Little's bill to amend the assessment act, Mr. Haycock's bill to amend the municipal act, Mr. Richardson's bill to amend the municipal act. Mr. Stratton's bill was to introduce cumulative voting into towns and cities, and some opposition was manifested to it; it was, however, sent on to the committee. Mr. Richardson's bill to amend the registry act by obliging Registrars to furnish the Municipal Councils with a record of all transfers made was defeated.

The House adjourned at 9.50 p.m.

## NOTICES OF MOTION.

Notices of the following bills have been given:—Mr. Hobbs—To amend the consolidated assessment act. Mr. Awrey—To amend the consolidated assessment act, 1892. Mr. Howland—To prevent the mutilation of horses; and another to amend the act respecting joint stock companies by letters patent.

Mr. Howland gives notice of two resolutions, one that a committee be appointed to inquire as to the easement claimed by the inhabitants of Toronto in Russell square; the other that a committee be appointed to inquire as to the incomes received by the Registrars of East and West Toronto, and as to the services performed by them.

Dr. Ryerson is still stirring the waters of the Separate School pool. He has put the following list of questions on the order paper:—(1) Are there employed in some of the Separate Schools of Ontario any teachers who have not the qualifications required by section 31, chap. 227, R.S.O.? (2) Has the Department of Education ever passed any regulation authorizing members of religious corporations or orders, they having received no certificates of qualification in the same manner as Public School teachers generally, to teach in certain or every one of the Separate Schools in the Province of Ontario? (3) Does the Government or the Minister of Education, or any official of the Department of Education, consider as persons qualified to be teachers within the meaning of section 61, chap. 227 of the Revised Statutes of Ontario, the persons who were not at the time of the passing of the B. N. A. act members of the religious orders authorized to teach or qualified by law as teachers in the Province of Quebec? (4) Would the Government be willing to grant the lay teachers duly qualified by law as teachers in the Province of Quebec since Confederation the same privileges or toleration to teach in the Separate Schools of Ontario as are granted to-day to those members of the religious orders who were not members of these orders at the time of the passing of the B. N. A. act?

Mr. Whitney will ask the Government whether it intends to give financial aid to the encouragement of the butter industry in the way indicated by the resolution passed this afternoon.

Mr. Howland's bill regarding the mutilation of horses aims at the practice of docking. His other bill will be on the line of preventing loan companies from lending money upon unfinished houses so as to encourage speculation.

## THE JURY SYSTEM.

The following portions of yesterday's proceedings were omitted from the reports, owing to crush of matter:—

Hon. Mr. Hardy moved the second reading of his bill respecting the verdict of jurors in civil cases in the High Courts and other courts. This is the bill to allow ten jurors to return a verdict instead of insisting upon unanimity, and Mr. Hardy spoke at some length upon the principle involved, of the saving in respect to disagreements, and of the lessening of the chance of influencing jurymen. A bare majority he did not consider a good expedient, as that would mean that one man could decide the result of the trial. Mr. Whitney made a few remarks, saying that personally he would not object

to seeing juries abolished altogether in civil cases, but asking if the Government had considered the effect in cases of suit against municipalities for injuries received, and suggesting that a jury of six, with five necessary to a verdict, would do as well. The bill was then passed.

The Attorney-General then moved the second reading of his bill relating to leases, sales and mortgages of settled estates, explaining that in 1865 when there were very few settled estates, an act had been passed making the Ontario law upon the subject the same as that prevailing in England. Since then the English law has been consolidated and improved, and in consequence of a number of requests the present bill has been brought in, making the Ontario law, with some few additional clauses, analogous to the present English law. The bill then passed.

## A WIFE'S DOWER.

The Attorney-General next moved the second reading of his bill respecting dower in mortgaged and other property. Cases had arisen, Sir Oliver Mowat remarked, of a wife's executing a deed which the words barring her dower had been left out, though her signing at a will involved the barring of her dower. The first part of the bill referred to this and made provision that in such a case should be understood that the wife's dower should be regarded as barred. Another part of the bill referred to cases where a mortgaged property had been sold and a balance was left after all claims had been met; the question as to whether the wife's right of dower still survived, and she could claim her share, had caused much litigation, and the bill would make it clear that she would have this right, and in fact placed upon the footing of a partner. The bill was passed without further comment.

Hon. Mr. Hardy's bill affecting juries and juries was given its second reading, he explaining that it effected some improvement in the conditions surrounding the juryman's lot and prevented the panel from being made known before the Assize.

Then the Attorney-General's bill respecting the legal meaning of expressions relative to time was read a second time, Sir Oliver explaining that to avoid inconvenience standard time had been accepted as the time to be used more especially in matters relating to elections and the liquor license law. He quoted English and European usage, and stated that to avoid the inconvenience of the jump of an hour at Port Arthur the jump will be made at longitude 87, in a district not likely to be thickly populated.

The last bill given its second reading was the Attorney-General's respecting convictions under municipal by-laws, the Premier explaining that it was brought in at Chief Justice Meredith's suggestion to prevent convictions under such by-laws being quashed on certain merely technical grounds which often occur in trials for municipal offences.

## CATTLE ON THE HOOF.

The system for purchasing meat for the public institutions was the subject which engaged the attention of the Public Accounts Committee yesterday. Mr. Davis of North York presided and there was a full attendance of members. Mr. R. Hunter, the Provincial cattle buyer, was examined. He explained that the present system is that he purchases all the cattle used in all those institutions in the Province which are large enough to keep a butcher. At the Central Prison the meat used in all the other public institutions in Toronto is killed. He buys between \$59,000 and \$60,000 worth of cattle every year—buys in the open market, and, he says, as cheaply as anyone else upon the market. He declared that he never concerned himself with the politics of anyone from whom he bought. No Minister or politician had ever hinted to him that he should buy from any particular man. To Col. Matheson's question whether he did not take an active part in the opposition to the election of Mr. Crawford, he said he had. He added that he did not think enough of his position nor of \$1,000 a year to let it prevent him doing as he chose. If he could not exercise his rights he was "out of it." Hon. Mr. Hardy caused a laugh by asking the Colonel whether he ever knew a butcher or cattle buyer who did not take an active part in politics.

Mr. Hunter defended the system of buying cattle on the hoof and killing according to the present system as more economical and more satisfactory in every way than a system by which tenders would be called for and contracts made for a supply of dressed meat. He did not think it possible if the cattle