

Important Addition to the Public School System.

CONTINUATION CLASSES.

Bakeshop Bill Receives Its Second Reading.

Mr. Hardy's Bill to Reduce the Number of County Councillors Read a Second Time.

Thursday, March 19.

Three important Government measures were considered to-day. Hon. Mr. Ross introduced in the afternoon a most important addition to the Public School act. It is a provision by means of which in small towns and villages where there is no High School what he termed continuation classes may be established in connection with the Public Schools. At these classes the subjects taken in the junior forms of High Schools may be taught. The proposal met with the greatest favor on all sides of the House. Hon. Mr. Dryden's bakeshops bill and Hon. Mr. Hardy's important bill to reduce the number of County Councillors were given their second readings.

On the orders of the day being called Mr. Richardson's bill respecting the floating debt of the Village of East Toronto was given its third reading.

THE SCHOOL OF PEDAGOGY.

Under the head of Government notices of motion, Hon. Mr. Ross moved "That this House doth ratify a certain agreement presented to the House on Monday, March 9, bearing date March 3, 1896, and made by and between the Minister of Education and the Board of Education of the City of Hamilton, affiliating the Ontario School of Pedagogy with the Hamilton Collegiate Institute."

Mr. Ross explained that according to the arrangement the Government would pay the City of Hamilton \$2,500 a year for the exclusive use of two large class rooms, waiting rooms, library and other conveniences of the Hamilton Collegiate Institute. The pupils would have 700 or 800 pupils in the Collegiate, on whom they could practise teaching. The cost of the School of Pedagogy in 1895 had been \$7,500, but it was expected to be less than \$7,000 during the present year.

Mr. Marter said the views of the Opposition regarding the school were well known, as they thought it was not necessary at all.

In reply to Mr. Marter's question, Mr. Ross said the agreement would last ten years. Hon. Mr. Gibson said that after the institution was moved to Hamilton it would be reorganized and called the Ontario Normal Institute. Dr. Willoughby also expressed the position of the Opposition briefly, after which Mr. Ross said the examinations would be in the hands of the teachers, who were better able to know the position of the pupils after being with them nine months of the year. After Mr. St. John had criticized the institution briefly, and expressed the hope that it would be more valuable after being moved to Hamilton, the motion passed.

PUBLIC SCHOOL BILL.

The House then went into committee once more over Hon. Mr. Ross' Public School bill. It will be recollected that at the second reading of the bill a good deal of discussion occurred over the proposition to impose a uniform county rate of \$50 for every Public School and \$25 for every assistant teacher. Hon. Mr. Ross now proposed to withdraw this, and in place thereof to make the township levy \$150 for every school and \$100 for each assistant teacher, and Mr. Stratton, who had led the opposition to the uniform county rate, opposed the township levy also, urging