

Coffin Addition, and that if negligence on the part of the inspector was disclosed, which he did not anticipate, the case would be dealt with as the facts warranted.

The Premier mentioned the fact that in every case in which a limit holder was found to have overrun his boundaries he was called upon to pay trespass dues.

Mr. Miscampbell stated that he was in receipt of information that there were contracts given in the Coffin Addition amounting to more than a million feet. This was no trifling matter. He found fault with the Minister for having failed to ascertain the facts of the matter after having been a year in charge of the department.

Mr. Gibson, in answer to Mr. Miscampbell's question as to whether the Government had any knowledge of sawlogs or timber being cut in the Coffin Addition, either in trespass or otherwise, prior to the sale of 1897, replied by giving a list of cuttings which had taken place, in nearly all cases having been done by settlers who were patentees or locatees of land in that locality. He also referred to information which the department had received as to a trespass by Mr. Dymont's firm, who own the limit in the adjoining Township of Coffin. The circumstances connected with this trespass were being investigated. It was claimed by Mr. Dymont that the cutting in Coffin Addition had taken place through inadvertence, and that returns made for the same were sent in along with the Township of Coffin returns.

Voting on New Year's Day.

Mr. Marter moved the second reading of the City of Toronto bill to amend the municipal bill, which asks that in cities having a population of upwards of 100,000 the property qualification for municipal purposes shall be reduced to \$300; that municipal elections be held on New Year's Day, when directed by by-law of the Council, and also that the polls be kept open until 7 o'clock. In a brief speech Mr. Marter urged the desirability of the change.

Hon. Mr. Hardy referred to the changes as "hardy annuals," which come up about election time in the City Council every year. The first proposition has already been passed upon by the Municipal Committee time and again, which had expressed the opinion that the franchise for municipal purposes should not at all events be reduced. The same might be said of the second clause, which proposes to hold the elections upon New Year's Day. Upon this question the committee has also once expressed its opinion, and it had been thought better to adhere to the general day fixed, and in view of these facts he thought it would have been better not to bring the matter up again during this Parliament. With reference to the proposal to extend the hours of polling to 7 o'clock, it had been argued that the time of opening the polls should be advanced to an earlier hour. The trouble about this is that it is difficult enough now to keep scrutineers at work, and the extension of the hours would offer greater opportunity to the personator. He suggested that it would be better to withdraw the bill.

Mr. Crawford expressed the hope that the Attorney-General would look upon the bill a little more favorably, as it applied solely to the City of Toronto, which asked for this change. Many men had been deprived of their franchise owing to the fall in values. The question of voting on New Year's Day had been long discussed, the object being to enable workingmen in the city to record their votes without loss of time. It is not an electioneering bill, but the Council and the promoters of the bill are sincere.

Mr. Marter again urged that, as the bill affects the City of Toronto only, it should go to the committee.

Mr. Matheson urged that the first clause might go to the committee, and the third clause certainly ought to go there also.

The Attorney-General agreed to allow the bill to go to the committee.

Civil Servants' Salaries.

Mr. McDonald moved the second reading of the bill "respecting the attachment of moneys in the hands of the Crown," which he has introduced for the purpose of enabling creditors of civil servants to garnishee their salaries for debts.

The Attorney-General pointed out that the bill, as drawn, went a great deal further than the hon. gentleman apparently intended, as it applied to all Government contracts, and might involve a great deal of trouble in the settlement of contractors' accounts, besides creating a dangerous precedent. Respecting the civil servants proper, he had heard no complaints, with the exception of a few in the City of Toronto, but the trouble did not extend to the counties. They could not by any measure that might be passed by this House make any effective legislation to cover the cases of officials who are paid by fees. He had had the honor soon after entering upon the duties of his office to obtain the consent of his colleagues to regulations governing civil servants who lived beyond their means. He was not prepared to say that something might not be done in the direction intended by the hon. member who introduced the bill, but he was not prepared to consent to their being discriminated against, or to have measures applied to them that are not applied to the public at large. That the same measures that applied to the general public should apply to them might, however, be a proper subject for consideration. Hon. Mr. Hardy reminded the House that in a bill introduced by Mr. Meredith in 1874 it was provided that it should not apply to debts contracted before its introduction. He had no objection, however, to the bill going to the committee for consideration.

The bill was read a second time and referred to the committee.

County Councils Act.

Mr. Smith moved the second reading of the bill respecting County Council elections. He explained that the operation of the cumulative vote had