

#### To Bonus Electric Roads.

Mr. Kribs moved the second reading of a bill to enable towns to assist in the construction of electric roads by means of a bonus or grant. At the request of the Attorney-General the bill was allowed to stand until the House has reached a conclusion in regard to the resolution now on the order paper dealing with bonuses.

#### Re-count in Elections.

Mr. Wardell moved the second reading of a bill providing for the repeal of that section of the election act restricting re-counts to elections where the majority is fifty or less. His object, he said, was to permit any person to have a re-count the moment an election was over. Why should there be any restriction in such case? It was in the interest of the Liberals as well as of the Conservatives to do away with it. He mentioned the West Elgin and South Perth elections, where ballots were thrown out, as illustrating the need for a change.

The bill was allowed to stand.

#### Issue of Debentures.

Mr. Wardell moved the second reading of a bill to reduce the amount of debentures which County Councils are entitled to issue without a vote of the ratepayers from \$10,000 to \$5,000. A short time ago, he explained, the County Council of Wentworth had about \$45,000 cash on hand. It had spent that sum in the course of two or three years, and now wished to borrow \$20,000 on debentures. He did not think a County Council should have such latitude without consulting the ratepayers.

Hon. Mr. Hardy said he did not know whether the House was prepared to impose the restriction desired. There might be a few cases where municipalities had acted unwisely, but that did not happen very often. However, the bill might go to committee.

The second reading was then agreed to.

Mr. Macnish introduced two bills to amend the municipal act. The first gives to cities the same powers now enjoyed by municipal Councils jointly with the adjoining municipalities to expend certain amounts on the repair or construction of bridges over streams which divide them. The second bill makes it clear that the power of municipal Councils to regulate transient traders applies to persons taking orders for clothing.

#### Against the Crawford Bill.

Mr. Pattullo presented a petition signed by the principals of several manufacturing establishments in Woodstock against certain provisions of the bill introduced by Mr. Crawford to amend the workmen's compensation act. The grounds of objection are as follows:—"Section 2, sub-section b requires wilful misconduct of workman before he is disentitled. Negligence on the part of the workman is not, as it should be, a bar. Section 5 makes employer liable for damages where another is responsible, and so where the

responsible person is not good the employer has to pay for something not his own fault, and owing to something he could not guard against, instead of compelling the workman (like any other person) to proceed against the person who really caused the injury, and com-

PELLING the employer to take a second action or leave the liable person added as a party, and which would be the cause of more litigation, as an employer could not settle without the consent of one liable. As to section b, a case of accidental injury may not be reported to the employer with the required particulars in time to send return, but that does not relieve him from the penalty, no matter how trivial may be the injury. Why should the burden of proof be shifted, as in this act, from plaintiff to defendant, and not give the defendant (employer) a right to have the case against him proved, as in all other cases?

The petition is signed by the following firms among others:—D. W. Karn Co. (Limited), The Canadian Furniture Co. (Limited), The Bain Waggon Co. (Limited), Thomas Organ and Piano Co., The James Stewart Manufacturing Co. (Limited), The Woodstock Waggon and Manufacturing Co. (Limited), The Woodstock Bicycle Manufacturing Co. (Limited), Clarkson Bros., R. Whitelaw, Butler Bros., Woodstock Electric Light, Power & Street Railway Co.

#### This Morning's Programme.

Two bills of interest to this city will be considered at to-morrow morning's meeting of the Private Bills Committee, which will begin at 10 o'clock. They are the bills relating to the Toronto General Trusts Co. and to incorporate the Toronto Hotel Co. G. M. Gardiner's application to be made a solicitor will also be considered if time permits, as well as a bill relating to the Town of Smith's Falls.

#### An Additional School.

Mr. Stratton gives notice of a bill to amend the public schools act. The object is to enable a school section to divide or alter the school section in order that an additional school may, with the approval of the municipality, be erected.

#### Cycle Path Bill.

The bill providing for the creation of boards of cycle path commissioners has been entrusted to Mr. J. R. Stratton, and that gentleman gave notice last evening of his intention to introduce it into the Legislature. The bill empowers County Court Judges to select five resident citizens who shall constitute boards of cycle path commissioners for their respective counties. These are to serve without compensation, except their actual and necessary disbursements in the performance of their duties. The commissioners are to yearly issue licenses, costing 50 cents, for the use of the bicycle paths. These licenses must be affixed to the bicycles.

Section 6 of the bill reads as follows:—"The cycle paths now in existence, and hereafter constructed in any city, town or county, are hereby declared to be for the exclusive use of cyclists, ex-