

preciation of the Senate's action in rejecting the Yukon and Drummond County bills, but upon a further amendment moved by Mr. Carscallen this afternoon deprecating any change in the constitution of the upper Chamber which might disturb the equilibrium between the Dominion and the Provinces established at Confederation. Comparing the two amendments, it will be seen that there was a decided change of base on the part of the Opposition. Mr. Whitney's proposition, asking the House to vote approval of the Senate, scarcely deserved to be treated seriously, but the Conservatives had at least some basis of argument when they touched the question of the constitution of the Senate. Mr. Carscallen's amendment was defeated by a vote of 48 to 37, and the amendment of his leader was declared lost on the same division. The same vote reversed procured the passage of the resolution and the adoption of a motion ordering that an address be prepared and presented to her Majesty embodying the views of the Legislature.

Statute Law Amendments.

Hon. Mr. Hardy introduced a bill to amend the statute law. The bill amends the manhood suffrage registration act by requiring applicants to swear to the different places of residence during the three months previous to registration. The district Judge is enabled to act on the revision of the voters' list in the districts where there is no stipendiary Magistrate, and the bill declares that the Government shall have power to appoint more than one local Master in a county or union of counties. In case of the illness or absence of a local Master, a Judge or junior Judge or deputy Judge of the county may act as local Master. It is set forth that moneys vested in minor or guardian ad litem shall be deemed to be vested in them in trust for her Majesty. Authority is given for the investment of court funds in municipal debentures. The bill further provides that any person who has been practising as a solicitor for five years before becoming a barrister may be appointed a County Judge if he is of seven years' standing at the bar of Ontario, and that a person who has been a practising solicitor for ten years before becoming a barrister may be appointed after five years' standing at the bar of Ontario. It also enables a Judge to be appointed in counties where two or more languages are in common use, where he is conversant with more than one language, if he is of seven years' standing at the bar. The use of affidavits in the Division Court is prohibited if they are sworn before a solicitor or agent in whose behalf the affidavit is made. The bill permits the Division Court Judge to order a non-suit or dismiss the action; or to direct the jury to answer questions of fact submitted to them. The giving of a mortgage or bill of sale on any part of the estate of a judgment debtor after the receipt of the execution by the Sheriff shall not, it is declared, prevent subsequent

execution creditors filing their claim under the creditors' relief act, or sharing in the distribution of the moneys realized by the Sheriff under the first execution, the amount of the incumbrance to be deducted pro rata from the amount which would otherwise be payable to the subsequent creditors.

The Drainage Act.

Mr. Ferguson introduced a bill to amend the municipal drainage act. It limits the time to six months within which the engineer is to make his examination after receiving instructions to do so, and gives the Council power

to appoint another engineer if the first does not act.

Amendment to Amendment.

Mr. Carscallen, in resuming the debate on the Senate resolution, desired to withdraw his observations made on Thursday night last, to the effect that the Attorney-General had unduly pressed the continuation of the debate on that occasion. He had since learned that the invariable rule of the House, when any great public measure was under discussion, was to continue the debate until midnight at least. He hoped the explanation would be received in the same kindly spirit as it was advanced. He briefly reviewed his remarks of Thursday night last, and, continuing, he said that as a result of the remarks of the Premier he had looked up the records of the House of Lords, and had found that that body had not done anything more than to hold in check legislation until such time as the will of the people was known, and then had allowed it to pass if it was clear that the public demanded it. It was the same in Canada. There was no instance on record where the upper House had endeavored to interfere with the popular will. The discussion in the press, on the platform and in the Senate on the Yukon bill clearly showed that the Senate's action resulted from their belief that it was a measure not conducive to the interest of the public. The Government had advanced a scheme for Senate reform, and proposed to go to England to get it sanctioned. He protested against their going to England on every possible excuse, and on this occasion particularly there was no possible excuse to go to the highest tribunal until the people, by their ballots, had given expression to their opinion. In his opinion the Provincial Parliament would be better employed in relieving the burdens of the people than in playing donkey engine to the Government at Ottawa. He gave figures showing that the aggregate of legislators for the Dominion was 746, far too many, and consequently too expensive, he said, for a country with so small a population. For himself he was not prepared to say that some measure of reform in regard to the nomination of Senators might not be advantageous, but not along the lines proposed by the Attorney-General. In his (the speaker's) opinion the Senators should be elected from constituted electoral districts of the Provinces. Mr. Carscallen charged that the Liberal party had in all its history in Canada been the party of inconsistency, and that was the case with it to-day. To support this he would, he said, read the