

SABBATH DAY OBSERVANCE.

Premier Hardy States His
Position on the
Question.

REVENUE BILLS.

Advanced in Committee of the
House.

PARIS REPRESENTATION.

**Ontario to Make an Exhibit at the
French Exhibition—Amalgama-
tion of Trusts Companies.**

Parliament Buildings, March 28.

The motion for the third reading of the bill to amalgamate the Toronto General Trusts Company and the Trusts Corporation of Ontario provoked a short but interesting discussion in the House this afternoon. Mr. Carscallen contended that the effect of the bill would be to relieve the shareholders of a liability to the public of something like \$600,000, and at the same time afford no adequate security in place of the liability thus disposed of. He moved that the bill be referred back to committee in order to insert a clause,

which he contended would remedy this asserted objection. The amendment was opposed by Hon. Mr. Gibson and others, and was declared lost on division. The bill then passed the third reading. On Motion of Mr. Mutrie, Mr. Holmes' bill to incorporate the Hamilton & Caledonian Railway Company was amended by striking out the clause authorizing a Sunday service. Mr. Mutrie contended that the Legislature could not allow the clause to stand, in view of the enactments of the House in regard to Sabbath Day observance. Hon. Mr. Hardy, Mr. Whitney and Mr. Crawford spoke for the amendment. Mr. Holmes and Mr. German opposed the amendment, which carried on a vote of 27 to 24. Mr. Foy desired to amend Mr. Crawford's City of Toronto bill by adding a clause providing that the assessment on the proposed King street palace hotel be fixed at \$360,000 for a period of ten years, and that the hotel water rate for the same period be five cents per thousand gallons used over the quantity used by the Queen's Hotel of this city. Mr. Pattullo commented strongly on such a proposal coming from a city that had refused exemption to so worthy an institution as the Massey Music Hall. The amendment was defeated. The bills to increase Provincial revenues were advanced a stage and reported with some amendments.

Progress made was quite satisfactory, and there seems no reason to doubt that business will be completed by Thursday night.

Trusts Companies' Bill.

Mr. Pardee moved the third reading of the bill for the amalgamation of the Toronto General Trusts Company and the Trusts Corporation of Ontario.

Mr. Carscallen said that if the consolidation of these two trust companies was proposed to be carried out on a proper basis he would have no objection to it, but the effect of the bill was to relieve the shareholders of a liability of something like \$600,000 to the public, while at the same time affording no adequate security in place of the liability that was thus wiped out. He submitted that it was most objectionable for this House to legislate from the public the security which the latter held against a corporate body in regard to the unpaid stock which had been subscribed for by shareholders. The total subscribed capital of these two companies amounted to about \$500,000, and there was in the neighborhood of \$750,000 which was security to the public and which had not been called in. It was proposed, under the plan set forth in the agreement which the House was asked to ratify, to wipe out that liability upon payment of \$625,000. That was not a just thing to do, and so far as these trust companies were concerned there was no justification for withdrawing from the public that security which they held with respect to the liability of shareholders. The companies referred to in the bill held trust funds amounting to something like \$20,000,000. That being so, the greatest possible security should be given the public. Furthermore, there was no restriction upon the directorate as to how the capital stock of the reserve fund which was to be created