

the term of the life of a policy from four to three years rather than increase it to five. Mutual insurance companies who charged renewal fees did so without statutory authority, and if Mr. Eilber wanted to remedy that he was willing to prohibit such charges by statute. Under a five-years' policy the premium note would be for a very large amount, and a great liability would hang over the head of the insurer. Cases of mismanagement and irregularities had occurred where people giving premium notes for the whole period had been obliged to pay enormously out of proportion to any benefit they had received from insurance fees. The Dominion Mutual Insurance Company of Owen Sound had, he thought, insisted upon four-years' policies instead of three years. That company was now being wound up, and yet in many cases the insured had to pay between 80 and 90 per cent. of the premium notes.

There was a pretty slim House, and Mr. Eilber seemed inclined to press the motion for second reading to a division, but eventually it was allowed to stand for future discussion.

The House adjourned at 5.30.

Tires of Waggon.

Mr. Fox introduced a bill to regulate the width of the tires of waggon intended to carry 2,000 pounds or upwards. It provides that after July 1, 1900, vehicles manufactured in Ontario, except for export, and intended to carry a ton or more, shall have tires at least three inches wide. Municipalities may pass by-laws prohibiting the use of narrower tires, and also offer a rebate of one dollar or one day's labor in a

farmer's statute labor to those who observe the injunction.

Mortgages on Land.

Dr. Pyne introduced a bill yesterday providing that in mortgages on land executed after April 1, 1900, there shall be no personal liability incurred by the mortgagor.

Prison Guards and Their Wages.

A deputation of guards from the Central Prison waited upon the Provincial Secretary, Hon. J. R. Stratton, yesterday, and urged that they should receive the same scale of wages as the city police force. At present they receive less pay, although they claim their work is equally arduous, and their spells of duty are quite as long. The Minister promised a careful consideration of the wishes of the guards.

Electric Railway Rate.

Mr. W. J. Hill, M.P.P. for West York, has a bill to amend the general electric railway act. It proposes to fix the passenger rate on all electric railways at two cents a mile, and to compel the adoption of a suitable fender for the protection of the public in all suburban electric railways.

In a bill to amend the companies act, Mr. Hill aims at making the President and Secretary of a mercantile company responsible for any misrepres-

sentations which the company may make in regard to their goods. The bill is introduced at the request of the Retail Merchants' Association.

Mr. John Charlton, M.P., was a visitor at the Parliament building to-day.