

SATURDAY, APRIL 13,

LEGISLATURE

CEASES WORK.

Objectionable Parts of
Metropolitan Bill
Dropped.

CITY WINS OUT.

Law Reform Bill Was With-
drawn.

DEBATE ON ASSESSMENT.

Extension of Legislature Term Leads
to Warm Discussion—Union Sta-
tion Bill Buried.

The Legislature concluded its business shortly after midnight, having within the last half hour of the session disposed of two important bills affecting the City of Toronto. Both measures, happily, were settled upon lines satisfactory to the city. The Station street bill was withdrawn on motion of the member who introduced it. The whole of the clauses of the Metropolitan bill which were objectionable to the City of Toronto were withdrawn. This means that without the consent of

the city the railway cannot run passenger or freight cars over the streets of Toronto. The bill as passed gives the company the right to acquire the Schomberg & Aurora Railway, and to make agreements with other lines, but in no way affects its present status as regards this city.

Metropolitan's Position.

In the lobbies last night members of the Legislature were discussing two stories as to the reasons for the withdrawal of those clauses of the Metropolitan bill opposed by the city. According to one story, there is friction between the Toronto Railway Company and the Metropolitan. It has been freely stated that the former company had an option on the stock of the latter, the price of which was to be increased providing the Metropolitan succeeded in obtaining certain legislation at the present session. The failure of those interested to secure the desired legislation interfered, it is stated, with these plans. On the other hand, it is asserted that the Toronto Railway Company has decided to purchase the radial railway, of which so much was expected some time ago. This, it is pointed out, will enable the Toronto Railway to make connection with a number of suburban lines, and bring freight to the waterfront and the market without carrying it through the city streets.

Law Reform Bill Withdrawn.

The Attorney-General's law reform bill was withdrawn, the Opposition, through Mr. Whitney, expressing approval of that action. The Premier's bill repealing the scrap-iron assessment was carried after a warm discussion.

The bill appropriating land for veterans was also finally passed. The House will assemble on Monday at 3 o'clock for prorogation.

Educational Criticism.

When the House met at 11 o'clock Hon. Mr. Harcourt, rising to a question of privilege, said the quotations made by Col. Matheson of the criticisms made of the school system at the educational convention gave a false impression of the views prevailing there. The proceedings of the convention had been most harmonious, and were distinctly friendly to the Administration. He added that The Mail and Empire's statement that he held the system to be perfect was unfair, as he had frequently made changes, and was constantly on the alert for changes that would improve the system.