

# REFERENDUM

## BECOMES LAW.

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Passed After a Long  
Debate in the  
House.

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## FOUR DIVISIONS.

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Opposition Votes Against the  
Measure Generally.

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## BOLT ON THE BONUSES.

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**Four Opposition Members, Headed  
by Mr. Marter, Vote With the  
Government on Railway Grants.**

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The chief event of interest in yesterday's proceedings in the Legislature, which at an early hour this morning was still in session, was the voting of four members of the Opposition with the Government in favor of the railway aid bill, and in spite of Mr. Whitney's vigorous speech against the measure. Later in the evening Mr. Foy commenced an attack on the Government's electric railway bill, which gave promise of lasting till a late hour.

The prohibition bill passed its third reading in the Legislature yesterday by a majority of 13, Mr. Marter, North Toronto, voting with the Government. The

bill was debated sharply during the forenoon sitting and for an hour or so in the evening. The discussion emphasized a divergence of opinion on the part of the Opposition in regard to the measure. Mr. Crawford, member for West Toronto, started the debate with a motion, seconded by Mr. Lucas, that the whole of the referendum clause be struck out of the bill. Mr. Foy went a step further than his colleague, saying that the amendment, if carried, would kill the bill, and if it could not be killed altogether and immediately he was quite willing that it should be killed by sections. Mr. Marter declared his determination of voting for the amendment, "but not with the view or intention of killing the bill." Mr. Whitney also reiterated his opposition to the whole measure, and during his address referred to the charges made that he was as good as pledged to repeal the bill if he became Premier, but he did not make a very definite answer to the question. Hon. Messrs. Gibson, Harcourt and Stratton replied to these criticisms of the Opposition in vigorous though brief speeches, comparing the differences of opinion expressed by Mr. Whitney and his following with the clearly defined, consistent attitude of the Ministerial side of the House. Mr. Stratton also emphatically denied Mr. Whitney's insinuation that he and the Attorney-General had fought in the Cabinet against the introduction of the measure. The amendment was defeated on a straight party division, the Government's majority being 11.

### Better Than Nothing.

Later Mr. Marter, in moving, seconded by Mr. Tucker, West Wellington, that the date of voting be changed to municipal election day, said he was not opposed to the principle of the referendum, but thought that in the present case the conditions were unfair. He also commended the Government for bringing in a bill to the extent of the power defined by the Privy Council. It was better to have the bill than no bill at all. Mr. Crawford and Dr. Barr (Dufferin) spoke in favor of the amendment, but Mr. Whitney opposed it on the ground that to do otherwise would be inconsistent with his expressed views on the question. This amendment was defeated by a vote of 76 to 4. Mr. Marter moved other