

FRIDAY, MAY 8, 1903.

POWER BILL IS APPROVED.

**Lengthy Discussion on the
Premier's Measure.**

MR. PATTULLO'S PLAN.

**Commission to Regulate Trans-
mission.**

**Mr. Harcourt Throws New Light on
the Celebrated Centre Bruce
"Saw-off" — Natural Gas in Es-
sex—Tributes to Dr. Bridgland.**

The discussion on Premier Ross' bill authorizing municipal power plants provoked varying views in the Legislature yesterday afternoon, but on the whole the bill fared well under criticism. Mr. Ross explained the bill in some detail, and gave notice that he would submit an alternative proposition on one point, allowing municipalities which only undertook to distribute power to appoint their own commissioners, instead of these being appointed by the Chief Justice of Ontario. Mr. Whitney said the bill had been brought down before the House was prepared to discuss it, but he did not oppose its principle. Mr. Henry Carscallen feared the bill would involve the municipalities in disastrous enterprises. Mr. Andrew Pattullo favored the appointment of a commission by the Government to transmit power, with authority to develop it if they could not make satisfactory terms with the private companies. Mr. Hoyle, Mr. Morrison and Dr. Beattie Nesbitt, Opposition members, commended the principle of the bill, which was then given its second reading.

In the evening Mr. Hugh Clark provoked a discussion on the saw-off in Centre Bruce of last summer, in the course of which Mr. Harcourt stated that the arrangement at the time had only been on condition that the local Liberals would accede.

When in supply the House passed estimates amounting to nearly \$1,000,000.

Before the orders of the day were called, Mr. Pearce (North Hastings) referred to an announcement that the Government would investigate the recent fires in Addington. The settlers in his county had suffered, and as they had to depend on their own mutual companies for insurance many had lost all they had.

Mr. Latchford said Mr. Fairbairn had been commissioned to proceed at once and report on the fires in all three counties, Addington, Lanark and Hastings, touching the loss of individuals as well as the destruction of bridges.

Tributes to Dr. Bridgland.

Before proceeding with Government orders Premier Ross rose and called attention to the sad event which had occurred on Wednesday evening in the death of Dr. Bridgland, the member for Muskoka. Mr. Ross recalled that the late member possessed particular elements of fitness. He was a very well-known and faithful practitioner, whose great kindness of heart, close attention to his professional duties, and straightforwardness and manliness had