

—Mr. Lackner—An act respecting the College of St. Jerome, Berlin.

Mr. Duff—An act entitled the hospital compensation act.

Mr. Auld—An act to amend the street railway act.

#### The Shannon Correspondence.

Col. Matheson moved for a return of copies of all awards made by the arbitrators between the Dominion and the Provinces since the date of the last return; also a statement of the account between Ontario and the Dominion from December 31st, 1892, to December 31st, 1902, as settled by the counsel for the Province and the Dominion. The motion carried.

Col. Matheson also moved for a return of correspondence, etc., with respect to the limit in the township of Ruthersford and unsurveyed lands adjacent sold to Shannon in 1902, from the year 1883, and subsequent thereto, to be laid before the Public Accounts Committee, with power to inquire into the same as fully as in the case of accounts for 1902. The motion carried.

#### Dr. Barr's Bills.

Dr. Barr moved the second reading of his bill to amend the assessment act, providing for the taking of assessment once in three years instead of every year, and for holding a Court of Revision in the first year and in the second and third years, also for entering new names and making alterations. Col. Gibson had no objection to the bill going to committee, although he thought its advantages would be offset by inconveniences. The bill was read and sent to committee.

Dr. Barr also moved a bill to have the high school act amended by having the trustees who are now appointed by the township Councils elected by ballot.

Mr. Harcourt thought the question was not of great importance, because neither the high school teachers' nor trustees' sections of the Educational Association had debated it. There was, however, no reason why the bill should not be dealt with in the committee. The second reading passed.

#### Sewage Commissions.

Dr. Lackner moved the second reading of a bill to amend the municipal act by delegating sewage arrangements to a board or commission. Col. Gibson thought it was not advisable to make another delegation of municipal powers. The question in Berlin was, however, a most important one, and he thought the bill might safely go to committee. It was read a second time.

Dr. Lackner also moved acts to amend the municipal and the light and heat acts by appointing commissioners to attend to the duties for a period of two years. The bills were read.

#### Local Control of Roads.

Mr. Sutherland moved the second reading of an act to amend the act for the improvement of public highways, by providing that such improvements shall be carried out in accordance with the views of the county concerned. He thought the people locally concerned were in a better position to know the needs of the municipalities involved than the Commissioner of Public Works.

Mr. Pattullo opposed the measure, because it would mean the frittering away of Provincial money on all kinds of unserviceable roads, as county money had been in the past.

#### Amend Good Roads Act.

Mr. Ross stated that the purpose of the Provincial grant was to encourage the counties to go into wider measures. The present bill would involve as many standards as there were counties. He would ask the hon. member to withdraw the bill. On Monday or Tuesday next he would propose some amendments to the good roads act, which would make it even more effective.

Mr. Sutherland, in reply, said that the requirements of a certain locality were to do as had been suggested to another hon. member, i.e., to publish an interview stating that he would support the Government in order to obtain equally favorable consideration

with other counties. For this reason he was not inclined, therefore, to withdraw the bill, and it was declared lost on division.

Eight private bills were advanced a stage through committee, and fourteen private bills were given their second reading, after which the House adjourned at 4.30 p.m.

#### Lanark's Road System.

The Private Bills Committee briefly considered the bill to confirm the by-law of the County of Lanark authorizing an expenditure of \$65,000 on road improvement, in addition to \$32,000 which they will receive from the Province. The bill was opposed by seven out of thirteen municipalities, partly on the ground that the roads would benefit the towns mostly, but Col. Matheson, who had charge of the bill, said they represented only \$328,000 out of \$940,000 of the total assessment. The system would amount to 128 miles. The bill was laid over until Tuesday, in order to get a report from Mr. A. W. Campbell, Assistant Commissioner of Public Works. The committee reported, with some minor changes, the bill respecting the Town of Whitby, confirming a by-law exempting farm property within the town in lots of over twenty acres from taxation for future debenture debt, except for school purposes.

#### Notices.

Mr. Carnegie will inquire: What amount of revenue was received from woods and forests in the riding of East Victoria during the years 1898, 1899, 1901 and 1902.

Col. Gibson gives notice of a bill to amend the loan corporations act.

## RAILWAYS WANT DELAY.

### SHOW THEIR HAND ON THE ASSESSMENT BILL.

#### Special Committee Lay Plans for Entering Upon Their Work Next Week—Special Days for Different Interests.

The fight over Premier Ross' assessment bill, as recommended by the Assessment Commission, began in a mild way before the special committee yesterday, when the corporations showed, through one representative, that they desired delay. When the Chairman suggested to Mr. Nicol Kingsmill, K. C., that the railway interests be heard next Wednesday, or, to meet him half way, on Friday, he protested against the short time in which to prepare, but he was overruled.

There was a good attendance at the committee, including Hon. J. M. Gibson, Messrs. Whitney, T. H. Preston, Pattullo, Pense, Pettypiece, Henry Carscallen, McKay, Barber, Hoyle, Hanna, Duff, McDiarmid, Foy, Barr, Stock and Russell.

Hon. J. M. Gibson was elected Chairman. He invited discussion on what should be done in the way of inviting the classes of interests that will be affected to come before the committee. They wanted, for instance, to satisfy themselves, by hearing the representatives of the municipal corporations, how far the bill would meet the sources of taxation which would be wiped out from personal property. In Hamilton it was said a very considerable loss would arise.

Mr. Preston—How do they know?  
Col. Gibson—They can easily demonstrate that by applying the act to their former assessment rolls. They had been receiving, Col. Gibson said, moneys from personal and income tax, and in place thereof they would get from 7 1-2 to 10 per cent. in the business tax. They had estimated they would be short \$20,000 or \$30,000.

The Chairman favored a suggestion that the Chairman and the Secretary of the Assessment Commission, also Mr. Kenneth McKay, a prom-

SATURDAY, MAY 19, 1901

## PRIVATE BILLS PUSHED THROUGH.

Legislature's Day on Routine Business.

### THE SHANNON PAPERS

Will be Laid Before the Committee.

Good Roads Act to be Amended — Important Matter Before the Committees.

The Legislature spent a busy hour on routine business yesterday afternoon, and many private bills were advanced a stage. Several public measures introduced by private members were also disposed of. In the course of the discussion the Premier announced that he would introduce a bill amending the act for road improvement. Col. Matheson secured an order for the production before the Public Accounts Committee of all papers relating to the Shannon timber limit.

The following bills were introduced:  
Col. Gibson—To amend the Ontario insurance act.