

FORESTRY CHAIR AT UNIVERSITY.

Second One at Ontario Agricultural College Suggested.

A NEW PHYSICS BUILDING.

Question About the Introduction of the Temperance Bill.

More Fire Escapes for Factories— Private Bills Advanced a Stage— Garnishment of Civil Servants' Salaries — Further Taxation of Railways.

"My hope is that we will have a forestry chair in the University of Toronto, and I will not regret it if we have a second one at the Ontario Agricultural College," remarked the Minister of Education in the Legislature yesterday afternoon.

Mr. Whitney had moved for a return of correspondence with reference to the construction of a physical laboratory for the university and the establishment of a department of forestry in the same institution.

Hon. Mr. Harcourt, in promising that the information would be brought down at once, said Mr. Whitney was quite right in saying the matters were of importance. It was not long since the Government was asked to consider the question of a new physics building. The House would remember that a very large building was being erected on College street, and there was a reasonable hope that to some extent the students—now overcrowded, it was true—in physics might be given some room there. It was said by the authorities that no fewer than 600 students were taking the physics course now. If they could accommodate them in the College street building it would be a better way from two points of view, economy in the first place, and, secondly, provision could be made much more quickly than if they sanctioned the erection of a new building.

The Forestry Chair.

It was a considerable time, continued Mr. Harcourt, since the Government was first asked to deal with the question of a department of forestry. A well-reasoned protest had been received from Dr. Mills of the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph, arguing that there rather than in Toronto was the place in which to establish the chair. The Minister of Agriculture agreed with that view. "I do not say," said the Minister of Education, "that I share in that view. My hope is that we will have a chair in the university, and I will not regret it if we have a second one in Guelph."

Mr. Whitney—I think if a choice had to be made the university is the proper place, but I think it would be a good idea to have one also at the Agricultural College. As to the new physics building, if there are 600 students now it will be a serious question when Trinity comes in what is to be done with them all. There cannot be any too much energy displayed now by the Government in dealing with this matter.

Mr. Hanna's motion for detailed information concerning the companies included in the Consolidated Lake

Superior concern was adopted, the Premier remarking that the order would be complied with so far as practicable at the earliest possible moment.

Fire Escapes on Factories.

Before the orders of the day were called Mr. Crawford called the attention of the House to a statement made by the Chief of the Fire Brigade of Toronto to a newspaper, that a more stringent act should be passed by the Legislature requiring more fire escapes on factories, many of Toronto's factories being most inadequately equipped in this way. No man, said Mr. Crawford, was in a better position to know the true condition of things, and if it was Chief Thompson's conviction that a more stringent law or stricter enforcement was necessary, it was certainly a matter that should receive the attention of the Minister in charge of the department.

The Minister of Education's bill to amend the act respecting boards of education in certain cities was read a third time.

The following bills were introduced: To admit J. H. Gorman as a final year student in the Royal College of Dental Surgeons, Mr. Powell; to incorporate the Current River Power Company, Mr. Cameron (Huron); to amend the law in connection with the revision of the assessment act, Mr. Gibson; to amend the act providing for the garnishment of the salaries of civil servants, Mr. Lucas; respecting the Lac Seul, Rat Portage & Keewatin Railway, Mr. Caldwell; to empower D. B. Vinette to practise medicine, Mr. Caldwell.

A number of private bills were advanced a stage.

The Premier, in reply to Mr. Whitney, said that the "Soo" bill would not be considered this week, as far as he could make out.

Mr. St. John—When will the temperance bill be brought down?

The Premier—I am unable to say definitely at present.

The House adjourned at 4.15 p.m.

Taxation of Railways.

A deputation representing the East York Farmers' Association waited upon the Government yesterday in support of the Pettypiece bill providing for further taxation of railways. The Premier, in reply, said it was the intention of the Government to make the railways pay a little more to the municipalities and a great deal more to the Province than they had been paying. It would not be a wise policy to place too heavy a load of taxation on the railways, for they would have to make up for it by increasing rates, but it was proposed to tax them as high as the business could reasonably stand. The more the Province got from the railways the more it could afford to spend throughout the country, and in this way the municipalities would benefit, although not collecting the taxes directly. The deputation, which was introduced by Mr. J. Richardson, M. P. P., and consisted of Messrs. T. Hood, J. Stewart, L. E. Annis and James Crichton, incidentally called attention to the poor service on the Midland division of the Grand Trunk between Markham and Toronto.

Notes.

The Committee on Agriculture met for organization and elected Mr. Taylor of Middlesex as Chairman.

Mr. Lucas has introduced a bill, similar to that of last session, to extend the provisions of the act respecting the garnishment of the salaries of civil servants to those employed in the outside service.