

might possess. He insisted that all the powers the steel company asked for could be granted without a charter.

Dr. Beattie Nesbitt drew attention to the unlimited rights the granting of this would give the company, as it would put the city at the mercy of this small railway. The bill was thrown out.

Mr. Eric Armour appeared on behalf of the Toronto, Ottawa & French River Railway Company, who are seeking incorporation. They propose constructing a line from a point near the mouth of the French River on Georgian Bay to Ottawa by way of Toronto, thence to West Hawkesbury, in the county of Prescott. The application went through without opposition.

A bill to confirm a by-law of the Corporation of Guelph, to provide for the extension and improvement of the Guelph Radial Railway by the issue of debentures for \$30,000 was passed on Mr. Guthrie's representing that the citizens of Guelph had approved of the step by a majority vote on January 2nd last.

The Fort William, Loch Lomond & Mount McKay Incline Railway & Tourist Resort Company, represented by L. L. Pelletier, sought incorporation, but received scant treatment. Mr. Smellie urged that both the towns of Fort William and Port Arthur were opposed to it as calculated to cripple their water supply. Loch Lomond forms a natural elevated reservoir, whereby a water supply for Fort William can be obtained by gravitation, and the erection of an inclined railway and the consequent appendages of a summer resort would create impure water.

#### **Private Bills Passed.**

The Private Bills Committee yesterday approved of Dr. Smellie's act respecting the town of Fort William. This confirmed by-laws of \$23,500 for extension of the waterworks system, \$5,000 for better fire protection, \$6,000 to extend the electric light system, and \$22,500 to improve the telephone system. The bill also confirmed tax sales prior to January 1, 1904.

Other bills approved were:—Mr. Bowman's bill consolidating debts of the town of Southampton, \$49,427.

Mr. Aubin's measure to incorporate the Roman Catholic Bishop of the Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie. The diocese includes the districts of Algoma, Thunder Bay and Manitoulin, and the islands of Georgian Bay, Lake Huron and Lake Superior, and part of Nipissing district, hitherto included in the Diocese of Peterboro'.

Mr. Pratt's bill authorizing Morrisburg to acquire water power and to confirm by-laws.

Mr. Fisher's bill incorporating the Ontario Telephone Company, with a capital stock of \$200,000, and which may be increased from time to time.

Mr. Bradburn's measure, respecting the town of Peterboro', aroused some discussion. The bill provides, among other things, for incorporation of the town as a city, the authorization of the purchase at a cost of \$30,000 of land for an armory and a collegiate institute, the confirmation of a grant of land and fixed assessment of \$10,000 a year for ten years to aid the Peterboro' Cereal Company, confirming a grant of land and a fixed assessment of \$4,000 for ten years to aid the Peterboro' Shovel & Tool Company. Mr. E. H. D. Hall, the town solicitor, spoke for the bill. Mayor Best and Mr. G. W. Hatton opposed the incorporation clause, claiming the citizens should have a chance to vote on them. Chairman Carscallen finally suggested the adjournment of further consideration until Tuesday, as the measure was one which he thought should be very carefully looked into, and the views of all interests heard before action was taken.

Hon. Mr. Ross has given notice of motion for copies of all circulars issued by the Department of Fisheries respecting the appointment or dismissal of fishery overseers since the fisheries were taken over by the Province.