

HOSPITAL BILL IN COMMITTEE.

Progress Made With Several Government Measures.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' DAY.

Introduction of License Act is Postponed.

The Royal Assent Given to Bill Respecting Unorganized Territories—Pine Timber Sold by Private Sale—Ministers Reply to a Number of Questions by Members.

His Honor the Lieut.-Governor attended the Legislature at 3 o'clock yesterday and gave the royal assent to Hon. Mr. Foy's bill to amend the unorganized territories act, which received a third reading the previous day. A number of private bills were dealt with, some being read a second time, others withdrawn, and a number held over. Several Government bills were advanced a stage, including the Toronto General Hospital act. The license bill will not be brought down to-day, as was expected, but will likely be introduced next week.

A Pine Lumber Sale.

Hon. Mr. Cochrane, replying to Mr. Auld, said the pine timber on lots numbers 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 in the township of Chesley additional had been sold to Burton Bros., Barrie, at \$4.50 per thousand feet, board measure, for sawlogs, and \$150 per thousand feet cubic for timber. It was not sold by public auction or by tender. There had been one other application to purchase the timber, but it was since the sale to the firm named. It was impossible to say how many acres of the land concerned had timber on them, as the timber was very scattering.

Hon. Mr. Foy, replying to Mr. Torrance, said no costs have been paid by the Province in *Scully v. Peters*, but in *Attorney-General v. Peters*, which arose in connection with *Scully v. Peters*, the sum of \$213.66, the amount of the taxed costs incurred in the Court of Appeal, was paid to Scully's solicitors; under an order in Council dated the 8th of October, 1902; also the sum of \$100 costs in the Supreme Court, on application for leave to appeal, was paid to the said solicitors. The question of making any further payment in connection with the case had not been brought to the attention of the Government, but would be looked into.

Mr. Torrance was granted an order for a return of documents and correspondence between the Attorney-General or other Minister and A. M. Panton and others in 1903, in any way relating to the action brought by Mr. Scully against Mr. Peters.

Mr. McDougall moved for a return of all timber licenses granted for timber or land covered by timber sold by the present Government without advertisement, with locality, amount and other details. Hon. Mr. Cochrane suggested an amendment to cover from the year 1895 the past as well as the present Government. Mr. McDougall accepted the amendment and the motion was carried.

Some Second Readings.

The following bills were read a sec-

ond time:—

To amend the municipal act (permitting biennial elections)—Mr. Thompson (Simcoe).

To amend the municipal act in respect of the formation of police villages—Mr. Kidd.

To amend the municipal act (in respect of nominations)—Mr. Thompson (Simcoe).

Providing for the exemption of woodlands from taxation (permitting ten acres in each hundred up to 25 acres to be exempted)—Mr. Downey.

To amend the public parks act—Mr. Downey.

To amend the municipal waterworks act—Mr. Downey.

To amend the assessment act (respecting telephone lines)—Mr. Munro.

To amend the assessment act—Dr. Smellie.

To amend the municipal act (respecting travelling expenses)—Mr. McDougall.

To amend the municipal act (as to polling on Fridays after a Christmas falling on Monday)—Mr. Labrosse.

To amend the municipal light and heat act—Mr. Macdiarmid.

To amend the municipal act—Mr. Macdiarmid.

Mr. Craig's bill to amend the municipal act in respect to police superannuation funds was withdrawn.

Mr. Downey withdrew his bills to amend the electric railway act and to amend the street railway act, which were introduced last year, and the principles of which have been accepted by the Government.

Mr. Little withdrew his bill (to regulate the erection of barns) to amend the municipal act.

In Committee on Government orders Hon. Mr. Cochrane's bill to amend the act to preserve forests from destruction by fire was reported without amendment.

The New Hospital Bill.

On the Toronto General Hospital bill being taken up, Hon. Mr. Hanna, replying to a question by Mr. Graham, said he had consulted with the Mayor and several Controllers of the city and some members of the Hospital Committee as to members of the City Council being on the Trustee Board of the hospital. They felt that the clause respecting representation, giving the Corporation of Toronto power to appoint five members, should not be changed.

Mr. Graham was of opinion that the best interests of the hospital would be served if Aldermen were not on the board.

Hon. Mr. Hanna said the city's representatives were not bound by the act to be members of the Council. The Council could select representatives.

Hon. Mr. Ross expressed strongest appreciation of the splendid work of the present trustees and the General Committee of the new hospital project. He reiterated his opinion that owing to the close relations which would exist between the city and the hospital it would be better if members of the City Council could not become hospital trustees. Their duties as Councillors and as trustees of an institution which under the act would be compelled to furnish accommodation for patients sent there on the order of the corporation, at rates to be agreed upon, would conflict. The Councillors would be in the awkward position of trying to serve two masters.

The Premier did not concur in the views of the hon. gentlemen. The city of Toronto had made a large grant to the new project, and was surely entitled to some authority as to who its representatives should be. The people of the city, the City Council and the Hospital Board all favored the proposed composition of the board.

Mr. Harcourt briefly supported the attitude of the Opposition leader.

Hon. Mr. Hanna upheld the representation clause as it stood. Hon. Mr. Ross and Mr. Graham again argued for an absolutely independent board. On the suggestion of the latter the clause restricting to students of the University of Toronto the privilege of visiting the wards was allowed to stand.

The bill was reported with some minor amendments.

The First Readings.

The following bills were read a first time:—

To amend the assessment act—Mr. Bradburn.

To amend the act respecting sleigh runners—Mr. Tucker.

To amend the local courts act—Mr. Fox.

To amend the act to prevent the wasting of natural gas—Mr. Fraser.

Notices of motion were given by Mr. Thompson (Simcoe) to amend the Division Courts act; by Mr. Lucas to amend the act respecting the "devolution of estates act," and by Mr. Pattison to amend the municipal act.

MANY DEPUTATIONS CALL.

VARIED REQUESTS PRESENTED FROM MANY PLACES.

Owen Sound People Ask for Stability in the License Law—Opposition to Changes in the High Schools Act—Hamilton Wants Water Lots.

There were a number of deputations at the Parliament buildings yesterday interviewing members of the Government in respect to a number of more or less interesting matters.

A joint deputation from Toronto Junction and the County of Welland interviewed Hon. Dr. Pyne. They entered a protest against a bill introduced by Mr. Crawford, and measures of a similar nature brought in by other members, proposing to eliminate the clause in the act giving high school districts the right to collect from surrounding districts contributions towards the cost of maintenance of high school pupils from outside districts. The Minister of Education intimated that these bills might be referred to a special committee and the whole question could be threshed out there.

Hon. Mr. Hanna promised consideration of the request of a joint deputation of the Toronto City Mission and the Prisoners' Aid Association, which suggested that steps be taken with a view to the prevention of overcrowding at the Toronto jail and also protests against keeping insane persons in the jail.

Mayor Coatsworth and the members of the Board of Control, with Assessment Commissioner Forman, Property Commissioner Harris, City Counsel Fullerton and Mr. McNaught, M. P. P., held a conference with the Government in regard to Toronto's bills now before the Legislature. The conference was a private one, and the aim of the city was to obtain the views of the Government in respect to Toronto's measures, all of which have been explained by the press.

A deputation from Owen Sound, including several business men, urged upon Hon. Mr. Hanna that there should be reasonable stability in any new license act. They also opposed any increase in license fees.

Engineer Barrow and Alderman Wallace of Hamilton saw several members of the Government in connection with Hamilton's desire to secure several water lots now held by the Government, in connection with the city's sewage disposal plans. They also ask that the Government contribute towards the cost of completing these plans. If this is done the city will, in return, treat the sewage from the asylum, now treated separately, at the civic plant.