

MARCH 30, 1909.

ENLARGE THE FACULTY.

SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION ADDED TO UNIVERSITY.

Important Government Measures Introduced by Hon. Dr. Pyne and Hon. Col. Matheson—His Honor Assents to Many Bills.

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor attended the opening of yesterday's sitting of the Legislature, and from the throne gave his assent to the following measures, the first completed legislation of the session: Respecting the fiscal year, to amend the municipal act, to amend the forest reserve act, to amend the act to provide for development of water power at Dog Lake, respecting the Rideau Club, to amend the audit act, respecting the municipality of Neebring, respecting the Ontario Veterinary College, to amend the act respecting stationary engineers, and an act to provide for the transmission of electrical power and to validate contracts entered into.

Two important Government measures were introduced, that of Hon. A. J. Matheson to amend the succession duties act, and that of Hon. Dr. Pyne to amend the university act. "The amendments to the succession duties act are largely technical," said Hon. Col. Matheson to The Globe, "and aim to remove some of the objections to the act made in a recent case." The Treasurer explained that the surtax on lineals, which stopped at three per cent. on gifts to single individuals getting over \$800,000, now imposes four per cent. on single gifts of \$1,000,000 to \$1,200,000, and five per cent. on gifts to single persons over \$1,200,000. This is in addition to five per cent. they would otherwise pay, making the total payment, where lineals (i. e. the children) get over \$1,200,000, equal ten per cent.

The Minister of Education's bill, Hon. Dr. Pyne explained to The Globe, proposes to place the Superintendent of Education (Dr. John Seath) on the faculty of education of the University of Toronto.

On the second reading of the Government bill to amend the act respecting agricultural societies, Hon. J. S. Duff explained that its purpose was to give the Minister of Agriculture power to add six directors to such of the larger societies as required additional directors. For newly-organized societies it is proposed to place the membership at 300, instead of 600, the Provincial grant being \$1 for each member.

When the House went into Committee of Supply, Hon. Mr. Matheson explained that the supplementary estimates asked for a sum approximating \$417,000.

The estimate of \$1,666.67 for a railway auditor, the Minister explained, had been made at the solicitation of the Railway Board, as it was considered necessary in the public interest. This officer would be identified with the Railway Board, but would be under and subject to the Provincial Treasurer.

The Attorney-General, Hon. J. J. Foy, explained that the item of \$1,666 for a chief of Provincial Police represented a new appointment, such an officer being deemed necessary. He would be in charge of the constabulary in the newer districts and report to the department as to the necessities for police protection and make recommendations.

Hon. A. G. MacKay observed that when the Government was expending over half a million dollars on the Parliament buildings an effort should be made to improve the acoustics of the Legislative Chamber. If nothing could be done, he suggested turning the present Chamber into office rooms and erecting a new or second Chamber.

Sir James Whitney agreed that present conditions were deplorable. It was his intention to have the engineer look into the question of extending the galleries.

The Premier explained that the grant of \$15,000 towards the construction of Hawkesbury bridge—an interprovincial work—was conditioned on similar support from the Province

of Quebec.

In reference to the grant of \$50,000 for a road from Charlton to Gowganda, Hon. Dr. Reaume explained that it was a summer road, but the details had not yet been decided.

Hon. A. G. MacKay asked if this meant that the Government would not extend the T. & N. O. Railway.

"That has not been decided," replied Hon. Dr. Reaume.

The Liberal leader pointed out the importance of the traffic that was going into the new mining district, but in response to other queries he ascertained that the Government had decided not to build a summer road from Sellwood to South Gowganda.

Power of Physicians.

Mr. Wilson's measure, among other things, proposes to materially restrict the powers at present vested in "attending physicians" in dealing with smallpox, diphtheria, scarlet fever, cholera or typhoid fever. As the law at present exists, the Board of Health, Medical Health Officer, or attending physician, or any one of them, may give orders as to the removal of persons or clothing affected by these contagious diseases. The Wilson bill removes such authority from attending physicians, and provides, further, that in cases where children have been removed from school by reason of contagious disease, a certificate from "a legally qualified practitioner" will not be in itself sufficient to enable their return. The certificate must come from the Medical Health Officer. The specific reference to certain contagious diseases is also struck out under the new bill throughout, and the words "any infectious or contagious disease" substituted, thus materially enlarging the scope of its effect.

Mr. Wilson, the mover of the bill, with Mr. Allan Studholme, the Hamilton member, accompanied a joint deputation from the Boards of Health of Hamilton and Dundas yesterday morning to interview Dr. Hodgetts, Secretary of the Provincial Board of Health in reference to the measure. Dr. Roberts, Medical Health Officer for Hamilton, and Dr. Bertram, Medical Health Officer for Dundas, were the spokesmen. Mr. G. Lynch-Staunton, K.C., who assisted Mr. Wilson in drafting the measure, also accompanied the visitors. The conference with the Provincial Secretary was a private one, Mr. Staunton explaining that it was not the desire to have opposition develop to the bill before its provisions were understood by the House.