

others giving the Grand Trunk and Canadian Pacific fixed assessments in the township of Tay. All the bills provided for fixed assessments in connection with school taxes. When the bills had been disposed of the Premier got up. He started out with a reminder to the members of the Legislature that they were responsible to the public for the protection of public rights, and then launched out into a condemnation of the principle contained in the four bills, attacking particularly the clauses of the bills tamping with the school taxes. The time had come when there should be no further trifling with the question. The municipalities entered into "illegal" agreements and then came to the Legislature to seek to escape responsibility.

No Special Circumstances.

"It would take an astute person," he declared, "to find anything like special circumstances in these cases. It was only yesterday that I was enabled to arrive at a realization of what these bills were. I think the committee misunderstood these bills. The position of the Government is that in the future when these transactions come up to the Legislature for confirmation, under no circumstances whatever will exemption on school taxes be allowed."

Hon. Mr. MacKay—Perhaps the Chairman of the Private Bills Committee will explain what the misunderstanding was?

Amid general smiles at the expense of Hon. Mr. Lucas, the Chairman, Premier Whitney replied to the sly thrust: "Perhaps the Prime Minister is able to give that explanation better."

To Allow Search Warrants.

A number of statute revision acts were given their third readings almost without comment. The only one that resulted in any discussion was a bill respecting procedure before Justices of the Peace and summary convictions. The amendment gives the right to issue search warrants to hunt for evidence of offences against the statutes. Hon. I. B. Lucas explained the amendment.

On Delicate Ground.

Hon. A. G. MacKay thought the bill should be considered very carefully before it was allowed to become law. "The whole question," said the Liberal leader, "is delicate ground. I always had a doubt as to whether a man's premises should be broken into for search unless the party having the warrant issued is prepared to take a little more responsibility, unless he is ready to take upon himself the responsibility of making a charge. If this is allowed apart from any charge of theft, I think it is dangerous legislation." Hon. Mr. MacKay wanted to know at what stage the amendment allowed a warrant to be issued, whether before or after a charge had been laid, and Hon. Mr. Lucas explained that a search warrant could be issued upon an affidavit where it was believed an offence had been committed.

Will Talk It Out on Friday.

Premier Whitney's two bills to amend the Ontario railway act and the Ontario Railway and Municipal Board act, introduced to protect the city of Toronto from the Toronto Street Railway in the event of the Privy Council decision being confirmed, will be fully discussed on Friday or perhaps Monday. The bills were on the order paper for their second readings yesterday, but the Premier stated that he did not desire discussion on the measures at that time. They would not be taken up before Friday, but when they were there would be an opportunity for full discussion, and probably some amendments might be found necessary.

Official Procrastination.

Hon. A. G. MacKay called the attention of the House to the number of returns ordered which had not yet been brought down. Some, he was aware, might occasion some work, and accordingly could not be expected at once, but others were simpler, and the Liberal leader was unable to account for their delay. He instanced the order of February 22, calling for the award of the arbitrators in the transmission line easement matter. He suggested that all these reports be expedited.

What is it Costing?

Mr. J. C. Elliott (West Middlesex) secured an order for a return show-

ing the cost, since its inception, of the Ontario Railway and Municipal Board. The purpose was to secure an official statement as to what this tribunal was costing the Province, and how that cost was made up. By this means it would be possible to determine what each case disposed of was costing Ontario, and learn whether or not the board is being conducted without undue extravagance.

Changing Succession Duties Act.

Hon. A. J. Matheson, the Provincial Treasurer, presented an amendment to the succession duties act. The Minister explained that the bill was introduced in blank to give opportunity for the Statute Revision Commission to review it prior to its consideration by the House.

Hon. W. J. Hanna placed on the table of the House reports asked for concerning the origin and character of the fire which destroyed the west wing of the Parliament buildings. The return includes statements by officials and newspapermen, who reported the outbreak of the blaze.

Where Lawyers Differ.

The legal men were in the limelight during a large portion of the sitting. After Hon. I. B. Lucas, prompted and assisted by Hon. A. G. MacKay, had piloted several statute revisions through the committee stage, Mr. W. S. Brewster launched the second reading of his bill to create benchers ex-officio of all who had served twenty years in the Senate of the Law Society. The lawyers seemed much divided as to its advisability. Messrs. Wm. Proudfoot and J. C. Elliott, who supported, believed it would insure the services of experienced and competent men. Messrs. G. H. Ferguson and H. P. Innes, who combated, argued that it bestowed power without responsibility.

The Liberal Leader's Suggestion.

The Liberal leader solved the problem. While some might argue that it lacked democratic principle, he was assured that nothing but good would result to the Law Society from its passing. He counselled fuller consideration, and suggested that the bill go to the Legal Committee.

Hon. Mr. Foy followed Hon. Mr. MacKay's suggestion. He suggested that the measure remain with the Legal Committee till next year, at which time members could learn the views of their legal constituents thereon. This course was adopted.

The New Drainage Act.

The House spent some time in committee on the new municipal drainage law. Mr. W. Proudfoot (Centre Huron) declared that the time had come when the Province should require a drainage referee to give up his private practice and should pay him sufficient salary to enable him to devote his whole time to the service of the Province. Mr. P. H. Bowyer (East Kent) thought there should be a referee familiar with conditions in western Ontario. Since the death of the late Col. J. B. Rankin there were many complaints that the present referee, being an eastern man, did not understand conditions in the west. Hon. Mr. Hanna agreed that the suggestion of Mr. Proudfoot was a good one, and regretted that it was too late to make an amendment in the bill this session.

Money Spent on Colleges.

Mr. J. C. Elliott (Middlesex) has given notice that he will on Friday next inquire of the Ministry as follows: (1) What sums of money have been given by the Province of Ontario to colleges or universities in Ontario during each of the years 1906, 1907, 1908 and 1909, with the particular amount given to each in each year?

RATEPAYERS NEED NOT VOTE.

Important Measure Respecting the Granting of Franchises.

It was announced by Hon. Mr. Lucas in the Private Bills Committee yesterday morning that Hon. Adam Beck would bring down a bill amending the municipal act, so that in granting heat, light and power franchises in counties and townships it will only be necessary to take a vote of the Councils and to secure the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor in Council. Heretofore it has been necessary to secure a vote of the ratepayers, but in some cases this was found to be awkward.

TRAFFICKING IN BODIES.

PLAIN STATEMENTS TO COMMITTEE OF LEGISLATURE.

If the Scarcity of Bodies for Medical Schools Continues it Will Drive the Students to Rob Graveyards, Says One Doctor.

Some very serious statements were made by Dr. J. C. Connell, dean of the medical faculty of Queen's University, Kingston, in opposing the proposition to grant incorporation to the Hamilton School of Anatomy before the Private Bills Committee of the Legislature yesterday. Dr. Olmsted of Hamilton, in advocating the measure, pointed out that incorporation would give the necessary authority for dissection and anatomical work on human bodies.

The proposal aroused vigorous opposition from Kingston. There was some plain speaking by the medical dean.

"The truth might as well be frankly spoken," said he: "if the scarcity of bodies continues it will drive the students to rob graveyards. At the present time," he continued, "inspectors of anatomy are trafficking in bodies, collecting all the way from \$25 to \$75 per body." Dr. Connell added that at present bodies were shipped from Kingston to the University of Toronto, despite the fact that Queen's was unable to secure nearly enough for her requirements.

Dr. Ryan, Superintendent of the Kingston Asylum and a member of the Queen's faculty, pointed out that the first duty was to the students. If their work was to be successful they must be supplied with enough subjects.

Dr. Olmsted suggested that bodies from the asylum might be supplied. "What is done with them?" asked the Chairman, Hon. Mr. Lucas.

"They are buried." The doctor added that they had frequently suggested and urged upon the Government that bodies from the asylums be turned over to the universities, but without success. Conditions in the medical courses were very serious.

Dr. Connell referred to the small number of bodies which had been turned over to Kingston during the past two years, only ten per cent. or less of what they had to use.

"You ask how we got the rest," he added. "It is unnecessary to ask, and those who administer the law should be the last to ask. We are loath to do anything of the kind. We, therefore urge the authorities to give us a fair deal."

"You have given us considerable food for thought," commented Hon. Mr. Lucas: "you have also given us cause to think the medical act, with respect to anatomy, needs some attention."

The bill was reported.

OPPOSED ARTESIAN WELLS.

York County Farmers Win Battle in Private Bills Committee.

A crowd of farmers that filled the committee room and overflowed into the corridor appeared before the Private Bills Committee of the Legislature yesterday to back up Mr. Herbert Lennox, North York, in his opposition to Dr. Godfrey's bill to incorporate the Artesian Wells Company. The bill was also vigorously opposed by Mr. J. Kohler, Haldimand, who pointed out that there were cases in which the opening up of these artesian wells had affected the water supply of the farmers. He sympathized with the farmers in their stand. The bill was overwhelmingly defeated.