

## OPPOSITION TO TAX EXEMPTIONS

**Mr. McKeown Would Not Favor Even Public Schools.**

**DULL DAY IN THE HOUSE.**

**Member for North Ontario Withdraws His Bill.**

**Sir James Whitney Thought Line Fences Act an Invasion of the Domain of Private Rights—Act to Approve of General Hospital Agreements Given Second Reading.**

A measure which would do away with tax exemptions on not only churches and church property, but upon the buildings and grounds of universities, high schools, and public and separate schools throughout the Province, was introduced in the Legislature yesterday afternoon. The bill is fathered by Mr. C. R. McKeown of Dufferin, an uncompromising opponent of tax exemptions in any form.

The assessment act at present gives exemption to every place of worship and land used in connection therewith. The only exemption the member from Dufferin would leave is with regard to church yard or burying-grounds. The bill is directed principally at the private schools, which, according to Mr. McKeown, have been entering into competition with public institutions of learning, but it will also require municipalities to adopt what Mr. McKeown considers a better system of bookkeeping with regard to public schools and their maintenance.

**Line Fences Bill Withdrawn.**

Although a number of Government bills were taken up in the Legislature yesterday the session was a dull one, the measures under consideration being principally revisions from the Statute Revision Committee. Mr. W. H. Hoyle, North Ontario, explained his bill to amend the line fences act, and probably appreciating the fate that awaited it withdrew the measure himself. The bill provided that the owners of land adjoining a division or line fence should be compelled to keep such land free from weeds, stones, brush and refuse of any kind. The member for North Ontario declared that reform in this direction was necessary, but he admitted that perhaps his bill was not framed in an acceptable way. He therefore withdrew it.

Sir James Whitney left no doubt but that Mr. Hoyle had correctly anticipated what was in store for his bill.

"It is an invasion of the domain of private rights," stated the Prime Minister. "It would, no doubt, be a great blessing if a great many men were constrained to do so and so, but you cannot legislate to make a man do

everything about his property that he ought to do. A bill of this kind is an interference with a man's control of his property."

**Report Against Windsor Bill.**

Chief Justice Moss and Mr. Justice Garrow forwarded to the House a report from the Commissioners of Estate Bills on the bill to incorporate the Board of Trustees of the Windsor Grove Cemetery. They are of the opinion that the bill should not be approved by the Legislature. The trustees of the cemetery asked for incorporation on the ground that the lands were transferred from the Windsor Improvement Company, but the Judges are of the opinion that some proof of the transfer and payment of mortgage on the lands should be produced.

**To Approve Hospital Agreements.**

Sir James Whitney's bill respecting the Toronto General Hospital was given second reading. The bill confirms the agreement between the Governors of the University of Toronto and the trustees of the Toronto General Hospital and the by-law as to medical staff. The Province guarantees payment of debentures, and the city by-law for the issue of \$250,000 debentures to make a grant and for acquiring lands is confirmed.

The University agrees to loan a further contribution of \$300,000, provisions being made for its repayment. One condition of the loan is that the University shall spend at least \$100,000 in erecting buildings for its departments of pathology, bacteriology and pathological chemistry, and the University is to pay back the money so expended, not exceeding \$130,000, by the issue of debentures guaranteed by the Province. There is no question of guarantee of the larger sum of \$300,000. The erection and equipment of this new hospital is to be completed within five years from December 1, 1910.

## MORE PROTECTION FOR WORKINGMEN

**Government Bill Will Have Far-reaching Effect.**

**BETTER SCAFFOLDING.**

**Flooring Must be Laid as Building Progresses.**

*Feb 14*