

TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 1912.

NO "LONG BALLOT" TILL NEXT YEAR

Toronto Members Failed to
Secure Bill's Second Reading.

LEGISLATURE'S BUSY DAY.

Many Bills Passed and Others
Advanced Stage.

Bill is Introduced to Legalize Practise
of Osteopathy and Raise Practi-
tioners to Higher Level—Opposi-
tion's New Tactics on Bilingual
Question.

The united pleading of Hon. Thos. Crawford, Messrs. W. K. McNaught and W. D. McPherson has failed to induce the Prime Minister and Provincial Secretary to allow the bill authorizing the use of City Clerk Littlejohn's "long ballot" in municipalities of over 100,000 to pass the second reading. The bill came up in the Legislature yesterday, and after considerable discussion Mr. McNaught yielded to pressure from Sir James Whitney, and moved for the withdrawal of the bill on the understanding that the principle would form an amendment to the general act by the Government next year.

Sir James Whitney's chief objection was that if this would prove a good thing for Toronto it would be good for other municipalities, and under such circumstances should be a Government measure. He had never seen the bill before. On the request being made by Mr. McPherson that the bill be allowed to go to the committee to be thrashed out there, Sir James declared that such action would be "slovenly legislation." "Such a request ought never to be made in this House," he added. The committee was just the place where it would not receive sufficient attention.

Objections to Bill.

Hon. Mr. Hanna pointed out that the passing of the bill would involve the amendment of eleven or twelve sections of the municipal act, which the Government was not prepared to do this session.

Mr. Rowell spoke in favor of letting his bill go through, and said if it should prove a success in the case of Toronto it might then be extended to apply to other municipalities.

Mr. Allan Studholme thought it was an attempt to get all the good things for Toronto, and if it was worth while why should not other cities enjoy it?

Still urging that he thought the bill would be a good thing for Toronto, Mr. McNaught said in view of the weighty reasons brought up by the Prime Minister and Provincial Secretary he would not object to letting it stand over for another year.

Oppose Close Corporations.

Because it tended to the formation of a "close corporation," a bill introduced by Mr. T. R. Whitesides (East Toronto), respecting optometry, was withdrawn on the second reading. Hon. I. B. Lucas said the purpose of the bill was to give opticians some standing with the view of protecting the public. At the same time too much power was sought by the association, who elected its own Board of Directors, appointed the examiners,