

THE ACTS OF LAST SESSION.

of chap. 14 of the Acts of last session is to extend the cases in which, under R. S. O., c. 126, orders may be made barring dower, notwithstanding the non-concurrence of the doweress, to mortgages as well as sales.

Chap. 15 repeals sec. 15 of the Act to secure to wives and children the benefit of assurances on the lives of their husbands and parents, and substitutes a new section for it. This new section enables not only any person who effects a policy under the Act, *but also any person who has or may duly declare a policy effected on his life to be for the benefit of his wife or children*, to require the assurance company not only, as before, to apply the bonus or profits accruing in reduction of the premiums, or to add them to the policy, but also to *pay them, or portions of them, to the insured*. And sec. 2 enacts that the Act shall apply retrospectively as well as to future policies.

Chap. 16 virtually extends the Act respecting guardians of infants (R. S. O., c. 132) to cases where the father is living, by providing that the Surrogate Court may appoint the father of the infant to be his guardian; or may, with the father's consent, appoint some other person or persons to be the guardian or guardians of such infant: but (sec. 3) if the infant is over fourteen years of age his consent is needed.

Chap. 17 is of great interest to the profession, since it defines the powers of the Law Society in reference to matters of discipline, conferred upon it in the persons of the Benchers by R. S. O., c. 138, secs. 38 and 41. This it does by definitely enabling the Benchers to disbar, expel, or refuse to admit any barrister, solicitor, student or articled clerk found "guilty of professional misconduct, or of conduct unbecoming a barrister, attorney, solicitor, student-at-law, or articled clerk," after due inquiry by a committee of their number or otherwise.

Chap. 18 is an Act to extend the powers of companies incorporated under the Joint Stock Companies' Letters Patent Act (R. S.

O., c. 150), and is to be read as part of that Act. The effect of sec. 1 is to extend the power of increasing the capital stock given to directors by R. S. O., c. 150, sec. 16 (which is by sec. 6 repealed), inasmuch as it is no longer necessary before this can be done that the whole capital stock of the company shall have been taken up, and fifty per cent. thereon paid in; but it is under the new enactment sufficient if nine-tenths of the capital stock has been taken up, and ten per centum thereon paid in. Under sec. 2 the name of the Province of Ontario, or of some locality therein, is to constitute part of the name of every company incorporated under the Act. By sec. 3 the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may, in pursuance of a resolution passed by a two-thirds vote, issue supplementary letters patent embracing all or any of the following matters:—

- (1) Extending the powers of the company to any objects, within the scope of the said Act, which the company may desire;
- (2) Limiting or increasing the amount which the company may borrow upon debentures or otherwise;
- (3) Providing for the formation of a reserve fund;
- (4) Varying any provision contained in the letters patent, so long as the alteration desired is not contrary to the provisions of the said Act;
- (5) Making provision for any other matter or thing in respect of which provision might have been made by the original letters patent.

The next Act, chap. 19, is one for the incorporation by letters patent and the regulation of Timber Slide Companies. This Act works great havoc with the Act respecting Joint Stock Companies for the transmission of timber (R. S. O., c. 153), since, besides various amendments, it repeals (sec. 28) the first twenty-six sections, and also sections twenty-nine to forty inclusive of that Act. By sec. 3 it provides that every company incorporated under its provision shall be sub-