

the time I presume in Australia and part of the time in Canada and desired to be naturalized in New Zealand.

The Bill was read the first time.

REVISED STATUTES OF 1906 BILL.

FIRST READING.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT introduced Bill (B) An Act respecting the Revised Statutes of 1906 and to provide for the French version thereof. He said: When the Act of 1903, under which the commission for revising the statutes was organized was passed, there were one or two defects, one particularly, that no provision was made for the French version, and it was provided that the Act should come into operation on a proclamation. Now it is desired to amend it in the direction at all events of the French version, and the Act of 1903 is repealed in all important particulars with some slight changes, which can be shown when the Bill goes into committee. It is proposed to bring the law into operation on the 1st January, and therefore the Royal Assent will have to be given to any Bill passed by the two Houses before that date.

The Bill was read the first time.

CRIMINAL CODE AMENDMENT BILL.

FIRST READING.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT introduced Bill (C) An Act to amend the Criminal Code, 1892. He said: The society of which hon. gentlemen have probably heard, and of which some of you may know, the Children's Aid Society, the object of which is to preserve children who are growing up and likely to become criminals, to take such care of them, by surrounding them with certain environments and conditions, as will lead to better results, desire one or two changes in the law relating to the society, and also in that direction they desire to make corresponding changes in the Criminal Code. It is rather widening the powers, unless a judge or court may otherwise order, of giving control of delinquent boys, up to the age of sixteen, and girls up to the age of seventeen, to this society.

Hon. Mr. KERR (Toronto)—I am very glad indeed to see the government moving in this matter. I do not think there is a

Hon. Mr. SCOTT.

subject in this country upon which the people are more interested than this very question. The whole subject of dealing with criminals and crime is a very large one, and of late years there has been so much progress made in other parts of the world in the way of improving those who might drift into the criminal classes on account of not being taken care of, by a policy of prevention rather than one of cure, by a policy of education rather than by leaving to chance children who are exposed to risk from environment and are apt to fall, that the greatest good can be done to the community by providing for their care. In some countries a great deal has been done in the way of dealing with convicted criminals of the younger class by providing industrial and various homes of one kind and another to which children who have been convicted of crime may be sent. But this project which has been outlined by the hon. Secretary of State is a larger one than that, and seems to me to be calculated to do a great deal more good than can be done even by the industrial school or reformatory or institutions of that kind. It is not a new subject. It has already been adopted in many countries and in some of the states of the union with very great advantage. In other words it is giving an opportunity to the child whose surroundings are not good, whose environments will probably tend to a life of evil, by improving the environment and training up the child for a useful life instead of exposing it to the risk of becoming a criminal.

The Bill was read the first time.

CANADIAN COMMERCIAL TREATIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

FIRST READING.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT introduced Bill (D) An Act to amend the Act respecting the commercial treaties affecting Canada. He said: After the Act was passed confirming the treaty with France, the same year, 1893, an Act was passed giving authority for commercial treaties. The idea was that foreign countries that had treaties with the mother country in which Canada was included, giving what is called the favoured nations power, should be entitled to the privileges set forth in the French treaty.