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In the Local Legislature

(Continued from page 2)

Highway Act

When the House resumed at 8.30 p. m. the Highway Act was taken up.

Hon. Mr. Veniot said that before making a division of the roads, he proposed making another tour of the province. He would not make a division of the roads until he had first consulted the people of different sections and members of the legislature whether the latter were supporters of the government or of the opposition. The money collected from autolists was to be expended on the roads and he wanted it spent in the interests of the people.

Section 6 of the bill requires road engineers to promptly report any unusual damage by frost, needing more than ordinary attention and it also requires county structural superintendents to immediately report any damage to bridges having more than a 20 foot span.

Section 7 of the bill which has to do with the holding of public meetings for the election of supervisors was allowed to stand for further consideration, at the suggestion of Mr. Baxter.

No change was made in the rule of the road, but New Brunswick may change by order-in-council if Nova Scotia should change.

March 20

Hon. Mr. Smith introduced a bill to facilitate the collection of stumpage. In explanation he stated that it was to take the place of an act passed last session which had been incomplete. The bill required holders of timber licenses to furnish the department with a statement showing lumber cut on Crown Lands as well as grouted lands. It also required shippers of pulpwood to furnish a statement showing the quantity shipped and where cut.

Hon. Mr. Smith introduced a bill respecting the taxation of wild lands. He explained that this measure would take the place of an act of last session which had not given the results looked for.

Mr. Hetherington, for Mr. Burchill introduced a bill to amend an act in incorporating the Northwest Boom Company.

Dr. McGrath introduced a similar bill for the Bartibog Boom Co.

Prohibition Act

Hon. Mr. Byrne introduced a bill to authorize sale of seized liquors.

Highway Act

House went into Committee over the Highway Act.

Retreating roads for double teams Hon. Mr. Veniot said he intended later to introduce a provision empowering municipal councils to act in this matter.

Hon. Mr. Veniot speaking to the section relating to obstruction of highways, said that he had added the subsection concerning the penalty of \$30 fine or thirty days in jail for piling wood, logs, lumber, stone or refuse on the right of way of any highway and leaving it there longer than 24 hours. All over the province he had found that small lumbermen and manufacturers of sleepers and other products were in the habit of leaving loads along the highway. He thought it wise to take action to put a stop to this practice.

Mr. Sutton—Would it apply to snow-plows and road machines?

Hon. Mr. Veniot—It would. I noticed when I was campaigning last winter that plows and road machines frequently were left at the roadside.

Mr. Sutton—I noticed that last summer.

Hon. Mr. Veniot—They were prob-

ably left over from the preceding winter. Any supervisor who persists in doing that will be removed.

Hon. Mr. Veniot speaking to the section prohibiting the disturbing of the soil by planting crops within four feet of the ditch, said the matter was most important as in numerous cases the highways were being obstructed and the ditches filled as the result of the desire of the farmers to cultivate out on the right of way.

Mr. Smith (Carleton) said this was a most unfortunate practice. The farmers had persisted and did persist in violating the provisions of the Highway Act, prohibiting cultivation to the edge of the ditch.

Many sections were passed as read, and several stood over.

March 21

Ex-Premier Murray moved, seconded by Mr. Tilley (who strongly opposed the same motion in 1913) "Resolved, that in the opinion of this House the provincial franchise should be extended to women" (The mover and seconder, Hon. Mr. Veniot, and Hon. W. F. Roberts supported the resolution)

Hon. W. E. Foster said he intended voting for the resolution as he had done for the bill introduced last session. He could not say however, that he was not yet convinced in his own mind that the women of the province wanted the vote. He had reference to all women and not to a few. Carried unanimously.

Manufacturers and Insurance Men Oppose Compensation Act

March 22

A delegation representing manufacturers and insurance men held a conference with Premier Foster at the executive council chamber this morning and discussed the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act which was introduced in the House a few days ago.

The insurance men protest against the province undertaking the actual business of insurance and claim that this is practically what the present act, if it goes through as it now

(Continued on page 9)

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