

certain extent, meet the difficulty, because it requires corroborative evidence, but at the same time my hon. friend will see that the mouth of the husband is shut by this Bill. He allows the wife to tell her story, but will not allow the husband. There is no fair play in that, and there is no reason why we should not legislate in exactly the same lines as we did on assault and battery, and allow both parties to tell their stories. I really do not see why that should not be done. If my hon. friend will take that course I for one shall be perfectly willing to abandon the objection I have to the wife giving evidence against her husband. That is met by the amendment of my hon. friend from Lunenburg, but the husband should be put, as a witness, on exactly the same footing as the wife.

HON. MR. GOWAN—I must say that I think the amendment moved by my hon. friend from Lunenburg completely meets the whole case, and I should be unwilling to allow the entering wedge of permitting a party liable to be indicted for a misdemeanor—because it is a misdemeanor by the statute for which he is liable to three years imprisonment—to give evidence on his own behalf. It is true there is a distinction between this and other cases, the charge being one of omission and not of commission, but still the principle is the same, and the same rule which would apply to one case would also apply to the other. I accept the amendment of the hon. member from Lunenburg, and I think it will really cover all that is necessary to provide for the security of a person indicted on such a charge. He requires that the evidence of the wife shall, in effect, be corroborated—that no man shall be convicted on the unsupported evidence of his wife.

The amendment to the amendment (Mr. Power's) was declared lost, and the original amendment was adopted.

HON. MR. DEVER, from the committee, reported the Bill as amended.

HON. MR. GOWAN moved concurrence in the amendments.

HON. MR. DICKEY—I would suggest that as the amendments are material, it

would be better to postpone concurrence in the report of the committee until to-morrow, in order that members may have an opportunity of considering the Bill in its present shape.

HON. MR. GOWAN—I move that the amendments be taken into consideration to-morrow.

The motion was agreed to.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES AFFECTING ANIMALS BILL.

SECOND READING.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL moved the second reading of Bill (41), "An Act respecting Infectious or Contagious Diseases affecting Animals." He said: This Bill is to make some changes of no very great importance in the Act respecting contagious diseases affecting animals, amendments which have been found by experience to be desirable in the interest of the protection of the general flocks and herds of the country, against infectious diseases.

HON. MR. POWER—After the very lucid and elaborate explanation of the provisions of this Bill made by the Minister, there can be no hesitation on the part of the House in adopting it.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—I will explain it all in committee.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill was read the second time.

CANADA TEMPERANCE ACT AND LIQUOR LICENSE ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

ORDER OF THE DAY POSTPONED.

The order of the day having been called that the House resolve itself into a committee of the whole on Bill (92), "An Act further to amend the Canada Temperance Act 1878, and the Liquor License Act 1883"—

HON. MR. VIDAL said: I have just received from our colleague, the Hon.

HON. MR. DICKEY.