

UNIVERSITY BILL WAS AMENDED AND READ THIRD TIME

Must Pay Water and Special
Rates—Bequests Are
Taxable

NO CONFLICT WITH LAVAL

Montreal North Commission
Suggests Civic Amalgama-
tion—Debate on Women
Lawyers Wednesday

(Special to The Gazette.)

Quebec, January 29.—When the bill of the University of Montreal was before the House today for third reading, two amendments were made. The first was on motion of Hon. Walter Mitchell, who had struck out a portion of one of the clauses in regard to exemptions of taxes for the University, and in regard to bequests. The clause provided for absolute exemption from all municipal charges. One change adopted is that the University will come under the general law regarding religious and educational institutions, which is a general exemption, but not for water taxes nor for special rates. The other change will apply especially as regards bequests. The clause originally provided for exemption from succession duties on all donations. For example, a man dying might leave ten millions in his estate and give one million to the University. Under the original clause, the Government could have collected succession duties on a basis of only nine millions, but under Mr. Mitchell's change the province would be able to collect succession duties on the ten millions.

Another amendment was introduced by Dr. Parrot, of Temiscouata, and carried. This was in regard to the clause giving the University of Montreal the sole power, as a Catholic university, to establish chairs and give degrees in the ecclesiastic province of Montreal. Laval University at Quebec has a royal charter which covers all Canada. There was doubt years ago as to its powers, and the Legislature enacted that Laval could establish chairs and operate generally in Montreal. Dr. Parrot yesterday questioned whether the Legislature could do away with this power, but since then he had a conference with the Laval authorities, and the result was that he proposed an amendment striking out the provincial law authorizing Laval to establish in Montreal. Laval remains with its royal charter.

Dr. Parrot, on behalf of the University of Laval, took occasion to say that Laval was delighted with the progress being made in Montreal, was satisfied with the separation, and wished the new University the best of everything.

CIVIC AMALGAMATION.

The amalgamation of all the municipalities on the Island of Montreal is suggested in the report of the commission of Montreal North. This commission was appointed last session to control the finances of Montreal North, and consists of Mayor McLagan, of Westmount, A. P. Frigon and one other member. Its report, tabled today, by Hon. Walter Mitchell, suggests that a commission be appointed to study the question of amalgamation of all the municipalities on the island and to report back to the Legislature next session. The suggestion is that there should be one central power which would look after finances and public services for the island, while the various municipalities would look after local affairs. This recalls the scheme, brought forward this session, of dividing the island into seven districts, each to elect seven men at large, as outlined in The Gazette in detail earlier in the session.

Hon. Athanase David put through \$203,970 worth of educational estimates today in the course of two hours' conversation across the floor with Mr. Sauve. The new Minister handled the situation very smoothly, and the leader of the Opposition was mild.

Third reading was given to Hon. J. E. Perreault's bill regarding colonization roads. Mr. Perreault's five million dollar bill will be discussed in the House next Tuesday. Hon. Walter Mitchell has already given the notice for the resolutions providing for the finding of the money.

AGENT-GENERAL'S STATUS.