THE LEGISLATURE WEEK BY WEEK

MONDAY, MARCH 5TH—

Six Government measures and ten private bills passed committee stage without amendment, and now stand for third reading. Three Government bills received second reading, and two new ones, amendments to the Mining Act and Public Service Act, were introduced. The legislative program appears to have passed the peak, although Hon. Lincoln Goldie's Hospitals Bill is yet to come down, and Hon. W. H. Price will introduce his Securities Fraud Prevention Bill.

Government bills likewise advanced were Col. Price's amendments to the Local Improvement Act, Estreats Act, and Landlord and Tenant Act; Hon. William Finlayson's Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act amendment, and the bill respecting relief of settlers in Northern Ontario, also an amendment to the Assessment Act by Hon. Chas. McCrea.

TUESDAY, MARCH 6TH—

FOUR-FOOTED WOLF DAY

The Fish and Game Dept. of the Ontario Government will adopt again the shorter open season for the hunting of deer in the province

AGAINST INCREASED BOUNTY

Hon. Mr. McCrea, in his customary address to the committee, made it plain that the Government was not favorably disposed to any increase in the wolf bounties. "It so happens," he explained, "that we are getting more wolves today under the $15 arrangement, that we did previously with the larger founties.

MENACE TO SHEEP INDUSTRY.

William Newman (Victoria North) pointed out that the wolf menace in his district had been so great to the sheep industry that the municipality of Minden in the County of Haliburton, had passed a by-law ordering that dogs be tied up at night.

Dr. J. M. Robb (Algoma) declared that in his district the deer had almost disappeared, due to the ravages of the packs, which were becoming more daring every day.

The Minister drew the attention of the committee to the fact that the deer were most plentiful in the very districts from which the largest wolf returns had been made.

"The wolf roams from district to district," Dr. Robb pointed out, "and he will follow the deer."

H. V. Harcourt (Parry Sound) advocated the plan used in the United States, where inspectors were appointed to take care of the situation. When reports of wolf ravages were received, the inspectors would make investigations, and if they saw fit, would placard townships, laying the necessary lines of poison. He believed this system might be more effective than the present bounty plan.

J. C. Wilson (London North) drew to the attention of the committee, complaints from his riding against the practice of some hunters in chasing ducks with boats. He announced that a deputation in this connection from London and Windsor would wait upon the committee.

Mr. Miller (Haldimand, Liberal) introduced the expected amendment to the motion to go into supply. It sets forth "that this House regrets that the Government, notwithstanding the increase in revenues, has failed to afford relief to local municipalities by assuming the total cost of construction and maintenance of the Provincial Highways."

ORGY OF EXPENDITURE.

H. C. Nixon (Prog., Brant) spoke for an hour and twenty minutes before the House rose at six, and concluded at the evening sitting. The ex-minister met the Provincial Treasurer's recent allusions to the financial failings of the Drury administration by reiterating the charge that the Ferguson Government had conducted "an orgy of expenditure" during the remaining months of the fiscal year 1923 after it came into office, and had been correspondingly indulgent in the matter of collecting revenue. He commented upon the prompt payment of a claim by an Indian tribe, $400,000.

Mr. Nixon wanted to know what the people were getting for the $56,000,000 taken out of their pockets in the last fiscal year.

"Good government," said the Prime Minister.

"Are they getting $34,000,000 worth more?" asked the member.

"Yes," Mr. Ferguson replied.

Mr. Nixon said the Treasurer had been the child of fortune in the matter of succession duty revenue, having budgeted for $8,000,000 and receiving $9,468,950. In connection with reduction of motor licenses, said to be a saving to the public of $2, 000,000, he estimated that the government had taken from the same persons $4,500,000 in gas tax and permit fees.

Mr. Nixon dealt in some detail with the discrepancy between rural hydro rates and those in urban centres. His own service charge, he said, is $4.35, even if he never turns on a light, while in a nearby village the minimum monthly bill is 75 cents. Power on his farm costs 5c a k.w. hour for 42 k.w. hours and two cents for all after that. In a small urban centre which he quoted, the rate is 2c for the first 60 k.w. hours and one cent after that.

Mr. Homuth (Cons., South Waterloo) spoke, and after him the House heard W. A. Anderson (Lib., Peterboro), and R. H. Kemp (Prog., Lincoln), T. J. Mahoney (Con., South Wentworth), at 11 o'clock adjourned the debate.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7TH—

The Municipal Law Committee of the Legislature wrestled with the Hawkers and Peddlers Bill for two hours and a half in the morning. And during that time some 20 representatives of interests opposing the bill were heard. Many of them urged upon the committee that in their particular businesses there were "peculiar circumstances" and "special conditions" which made their inclusion in the list of those exempt from payment of licenses imperative, while there were others—chief among them the representative of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association—who were absolutely opposed to the principle of the bill.

SUGGESTIONS FAVORED.

A wide variety of amendments to the bill were suggested, and in two or three cases the committee received the suggestions favorably. Following the presentation of the case of the bakers by Mark Bredin of the Canada Bread Co., Hon. William Finlayson, the chairman, said that some provision would probably be made in the bill whereby bakers, milkmen and similar merchants, who canvassed on delivery routes outside the municipality in which they paid taxes, would pay a fixed amount for a blanket license and then pay a nominal fee of one or two dollars on each rig sent out. The committee also agreed to exempt from payment of license fee those selling Bibles, music and "high-class" educational books.

Toward the end of the sitting, Col. John A. Currie (Con., Toronto St. Patrick) carried his opposition to the bill to the length of moving that it be thrown out, and although there was a chorus of approval, his motion was drowned out and was ignored by the chairman. Col. Currie allowed his motion to go unconsidered, with the warning, however, that he would "shoot the bill down" at the next meeting of the committee.

TWO-LEGGED WOLF DAY

Attorney-General Wm. H. Price's widely heralded "Security Frauds Prevention Act" was revealed to the Legislature.

Features of the act are as follows:

1. Brokers and salesmen must register with the Registrar of joint stock companies in the Provincial Secretary's Dept., and no person shall dispose of any security unless he is registered. The registration fee will be nominal.

2. Every broker must file a bond of $500. This is done to give the Attorney-General's Dept. an opportunity of controlling the assets of a defunct broker who has defrauded the public, otherwise the assets are frittered away.

3. The Registrar shall keep a book with the name and address of every broker and salesman entitled to do business in the province.

4. The Registrar may refuse registration within a ten-day period after application if directed by the Attorney-General to do so.

BOND IN SOME CASES.

5. The Registrar may, on the direction of the Attorney-General, demand a substantial bond by a security company as a condition precedent to doing business. This is intended to cover the case of foreign brokers and salesmen, and others who may not be reputable, but who may be given a chance to do business under proper bonding.

6. Investigations may be held by the Attorney-General. He is given full power to take such evidence and get such information as may be desirable, and may apply to the Supreme Court of Ontario for injunctions as conditions warrant.

7. The Supreme Court of Ontario may enjoin any brokers or salesmen from trading in securities if it is found that they have been acting in a fraudulent way.

8. The Attorney-General may issue orders to banks to hold funds.

9. The Attorney-General may take bankruptcy proceedings where a broker has become liable for fraudulent acts and is in an insolvent condition.

LIST OF SECURITIES.

10. The Registrar may ask every brokerage firm selling securities to file with him a statement of the securities being sold and what he is representing to the public. If a different representation is made to the public it will be evidence of a fraudulent act, and may lead to a cancellation of registration and an injunction.

A contravention of the act will bring a penalty of not more than $1,000 for the first offense, nor $2,000 for the second or subsequent offense, and in either case a first or subsequent offense to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months. The Martin Act in New York gives imprisonment up to two years, but this act will be administered keeping in mind the Criminal Code as well as the provisions of the act.

EXCEPTIONS TO ACT.

There are certain exceptions to the act, and in connection with the following no person need be registered: (a) judicial sales; (b) isolated transictions by the owner provided they are not such continued and successive transactions as to make him a broker; (c) sale by pledgee for debt; (d) distribution of stock dividends; (e) transactions where one party is a public official, or a bank, loan, trust or insurance company, or is registered; (f) exchange of stock on merger; (g) prospectors' grub-stake, or share of mining property staked by him; (h) trustee securities; (i) secured bonds or notes; (j) negotiable paper; (k) securities based upon conditional sales; (l) shares of educational, benevolent, fraternal, or recreational obdies where there is no pecuniary profit; (m) such other classes of securities as may be exempted by regulation.

Attorney-General Price also told the House: "In drafting this, there has been every effort to keep in mind the fact that there are certain stabilized securities in which one should be able to trade without being registered, and certain classes of transactions not open to fraud. There is also an exemption for the prospector who deals in his own claim, or who is being grubstaked. As soon, however, as a mining claim becomes a stock flotation and its shares are being sold to the public, the broker or salesmen dealing in the stock must be registered."

All persons who sell securities, whether acting as officials or salesmen of companies, or not, are included in the act.

Up In The Air

SPECTACULAR LEAP FOR HIS COUNTRY

This is the sort of sensational thing that was seen during the ski-jumping contest at the winter Olympic games in Switzerland.

A Queen of Grace

Sonya Henie, of Norway, as she won the women's figure skating championship in the Olympic games at St. Moritz.

Massey Boasts About Canada

Tells New York Bond Club About Dominion's Progress

New York—Canada in the last 12 months "has made the most striking advance on the widest front and with most permanent result of any period of the same length in its history," declared Hon. Vincent Massey, Canadian Minister to the United States, in addressing the New York Bond Club.

Every time he had visited Canada in the last year or so, he had come back conscious of the enthusiasm and the energy which pervaded all activities in the country from coast to coast.

"There are not, I am glad to say, the lurid features of the boom to be seen," Mr. Massey said. "Booms are transient things and leave reactions. Our advance is steady and sure and is taking place in atmosphere of quiet confidence and reasoned optimism.

"Canada has been no happy hunting ground for the pessimist, his innings have always been short. In fact, some of the episodes in our past, the boldest stages in national building, in advancing our economic frontiers west and north have seemed simply common sense calculated wisdom to after generations."

2,000 British Boys Scheduled To Reach Canada During Summer

Montreal.—The movement of British youth to Canada promises to be considerably heavier than usual, due to new arrangements made with the British government.

Ontario is taking 500 boys, Manitoba fifty and the Maritime Provinces and Saskatchewan an indeterminate number, while some hundreds are to be moved by private organizations. In all it is estimated some 2,000 boys probably will be brought out under the new scheme this summer.

Newfoundland May Enter Dominion of Canada This Year

Negotions Are Soon to be Under Way to Discuss the Pros and Cons

A NEW CONFEDERATION YEAR?

Ottawa.—This year may prove the most eventful in the history of Canada since Confederation. Pourparlers which have not yet the status of official negotiations are under way for the union of Newfoundland with the Dominion.

The date has been unofficially set as March 22 for the discussion.

Both Liberal and Conservative members of the Canadian Commons have been canvassed on the general proposition and their reaction thus far has been that, within any reasonable basis, Canada is prepared and anxious to welcome the Old Colony into the Dominion.

Effort in 1866 and 1867 proved abortive and again in 1895 a movement to secure union between Newfoundland and Canada was wrecked mainly on the wings of a dirge about a Mr. Shea, then representing Newfoundland in the negotiations. At this moment there is no disposition to bicker. Canada is cognizant of the merits of union and such information as has preceded the delegation indicates that Newfoundland also is.

The basis of admission admits of grave argument. Representation, capital indebtedness and many other factors must all be adjusted before any final agreement can be reached.

Chance of Success.

Similar negotiations have occurred before, it must be recalled, and they failed, but, at this moment it appears that there is better chance of successful compromise than there was either in '67 or in '95.

At least, the delegates from the Old Colony are assured of a sympathetic reception. Without regard to party, the two major parties are prepared to go more than half way. There will be little or no criticism of any agreement to be reached within the bounds of reason.

Arabs Move in Holy War They Capture Villages But Britain Moves Quickly

King of Hedjaz Throws in Lot With Marauding Tribes

LEAVE CANCELLED

London is Watching New Crisis With Much Concern

London.—A spark of war threatens to spurt into ame in Iraq, according to spurt into flame in Iraq, according the king of the Hedjaz, and Sultan of Nejd, has thrown in his lot with the marauding tribes which recently have been raiding Iraq. He has already supplied, it is reported, 400 rifles and a large stock of munitions, provisions and tents to 20,000 Wahabi tribesmen marching from the mid-Arabian deserts for an attack on Iraq and Transjordania, each of which is under a British mandate. If this be true, it means that intermittent border fights between the tribesmen and airplanes and armored cars of the Royal Air Force may develop into real warfare on an extended front.

Besides the native Iraq levies, Great Britain has approximately 50 bombing and combat 'planes and numerous armored cars, while the cruiser Emerald and the sloops Cyclamen and Lupin are anchored in the bay near Koweit.

The significance of the report lies in the power throughout Arabia of Ibn Saudfi who is known as the "Arab Napoleon." During the world war Great Britain paid him $300,000 a year to keep the peace. When the subsidy ceased he conquered and annexed the Hedjaz, which includes the Holy Cities of Mecca and Medina.

COMMANDS WAHABI.

He commands the fanatical loyalty of the Wahabi tribesmen, who uphold the teachings of the prophet. Since the Royal Air Force last repulsed the raiding Arab tribes and followed them into the desert, inflicting losses estimated at several hundreds, it has been known that a large number of the tribes were massing for an attack on Iraq. Last reports, however, are the first indication of Saud's real attitude and also that Transpordania would be attacked.

Meanwhile the Colonial Office official denied persistent reports that the Government is rushing troops from India to Iraq. In the House of Commons Leopold Amery, the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, was questioned as to the failure of the Royal Air Force to prevent the recurrent raid on Iraq and as to whether or not the air force headquarters ought not to be moved nearer the southern border. He replied that all that was possible was being done and that the technical manoeuvres must be left to the air commander at Iraq.

Several factors in the situation lend special significance to the news of Saud's action. The rulers of Iraq and Transjordania are each sons of former King Hussien, of the Hedjaz, who is an old and bitter enemy of Saud. It is reported from Basra that Saud has called the Wahabis to fight against the "infidels" in an attempt to start a holy war, but it is said that a serious religious quarrel obtains even among his followers.

Iraq is on the road to India. Transjordania borders on Palestine, which in turn commands, together with Egypt, the British lines of communication with the East.

PREPARATIONS ACTIVE.

London.—Small detachments of Sultan Ibn Saud's tribesmen have crossed the Transpordanian frontier and captured villages, an Exchange telegraph despatched from Basra reports.

A British military detachment equipped with ten armored cars, ten airplanes and a number of transport cars, was sent outside the walls of Koweit to a point near the Nejl frontier.

Marines and sailors from the British cruiser Emerald were patrolling the streets, it was said.

The overland motor route between Bagdad and Damascus was suspended temporarily, it was said.

A despatch to the Daily Mail from Jaffa told of preparations being made by British authorities in Palestine.

The frontier force was being mobilized. All officers and men were recalled from leave. An armored car company left Ramleh, Palestine, for Amman, Palestine.

Several airplanes, each understood to be carrying 20 men, passed over Jaffa Tuesday enroute from Egypt to Amman.

A Jewish elegraphic agency despatch from Jerusalem said 22 airplanes and seven tanks were sent to the Transjordania frontier.

The people of Palestine were stated to be watching with some anxiety the extensive preparations to utilize for the first time the Royal Air Force stationed at Ramleh and Sarafand. Observers commented that Ibn Saud had chosen a propitious moment for declaring a "holy war against the infidels," since airplane fighting is difficult in hot months.

Armored trains patroled the Bagdad-Basra Railway in Irak.

A HOPEFUL VIEW.

London—London officialdom, notwithstanding the reports of active preparations to meet the arch menace emanating from Palestine and other near eastern points, is inclined to minimize the Arabian situation. They say a report has been receved that Ibn Saud is making a pilgrimage to Mecca and the view taken is that he would certainly not travel so far away from his capital, Riedh, if the position were at all critical.

All Together

GOING OVER IN GLORIOUS FASHION

A remarkable picture snapped at Newbury, England. Real Royal (nearest comera), the winner, and Soothing Class, who was second in the Swindon Steeplechase.

Royal Air Force To Aid Training Dominion Pilots

Sir S. Hoare Announces Plan for Regular Interchange of Officers

INCREASE SQUADRONS

London.—Considerable progress has been made in the matter of co-operation with the air forces of the dominions in order to secure identtity of methods in the training of the empire air forces, Sir Samuel Hoare, secretary of state for air, announced in connection with the air force estimates.

He stated that there would be a regular scheme of interchange between the royal air force and the Canadian and Australian air forces.

The flying power of the royal air force would be increased from 69 to 3 squadrons, the air minister stated. The coming year's developments would be principally overseas. Two new squadrons would go to India, thus making a total of eight there, and the cost would come out of the Indian exchequer.

Provision is made in the estimates for two new flying boats of great potentialities in protecting imperial communications. One of them will be stationed overseas.

The subsidies to civil aviation have been increased, the idea being to encourage further development of the existing services this year with the ultimate object of establishing an imperial air mail route to India.

Artist—"After my death the world will realize all that I have done."

Friend—"Yes, but you'll be out of harm's way by that time."