

ANOTHER QUIET DAY.

LEGISLATURE GETS THROUGH LOTS OF FORMAL WORK.

Will Endeavor to Train Blind as Organists at Brantford Institution —Mr. Studholme Objects to Cab Hire for Ministers.

Yesterday afternoon in the Legislature had the quietness of steady work. A number of bills were advanced a stage and sent on to the various committees for more detailed consideration, and then the House went into supply. The most interesting item dealt with was that proposing to increase the salary of the musical instructor at the Brantford Institute for the Blind from \$400 to \$1,000. The Minister of Education explained that the services of a more highly qualified instructor had been procured with the object of endeavoring to train some of the inmates as organists and to fit them for obtaining positions in different churches. If the experiment is successful it will result in opening up a new avenue of employment for such of these unfortunates as are possessed of the requisite natural aptitude. Mr. Alan Studholme objected to an item of \$375 for cab hire. The Hon. W. J. Hanna explained that it was in the case of ministers who conducted services at public institutions. They received no remuneration.

Mr. Craig's bill with regard to the Guelph Consolidated School was referred to the Municipal Committee. Mr. W. D. McPherson's bill to improve and make certain tax titles was referred to the Legal Committee on the understanding that it would not be dealt with this session. The Attorney-General pointed out that quite a radical change of system was proposed, and it would be well if the bill were circulated among the legal profession, municipal officers and judges who had to do with these matters, and carefully considered before any definite action were taken.

In order that the objections of Boards of Education might be heard Mr. McPherson suggested that the bill providing for a return to the system of separate school boards for public, high and technical schools should go to committee. The measure received its second reading and was then sent on to the Municipal Committee, where, as the Minister of Education stated, it may be expected to lead to considerable controversy.

One of Toronto's little omnibus measures gave rise to the suggestion by the Premier that the city's name should be changed to Arcadia or Utopia. The moving of the second reading was in the hands of Mr. W. K. McNaught. He confessed that he had not a copy of the measure, and asked that it should be allowed to stand over. The Premier wished to make progress, but when Mr. McNaught proceeded to outline some of the proposals the Premier said that they were of too great importance to be discussed without members having the bill before them. Apparently it was desired to turn Toronto into a Utopia.

Mr. Ross (Middlesex) has given notice that he will move that if the report of Mr. Starr, who was appointed a commissioner to inquire into certain matters relating to liquor licenses in the city of Toronto, has not been printed for public distribution, the original report be laid upon the table of the House.

Mr. Ross will also move for an order of the House for a return showing the taxation paid by the railways in the Province to local municipalities.

To Aid Separate Schools.

That separate schools are not, under present conditions, securing an adequate share of Provincial and municipal taxation is the claim of Mr. T. W. McGarry (South Renfrew), who proposes to remedy this condition by an interesting Legislative measure.

DEVELOPING THE NORTH.

GOVERNMENT LIKELY TO DISCUSS PLANS FOR RAILWAYS.

The Whole Question May be Submitted to Caucus To-day — Sir James Whitney's Comment to Northern Deputation.

The Government will probably communicate to the members on its side of the Legislature its proposals in connection with immediate plans for the further opening up of the north country at the Conservative caucus this afternoon. The discussion will probably define the extent to which the Province is prepared to go in aiding the Canadian Northern in its project to extend its line from Sudbury to Port Arthur. A decision as to whether any additional extensions of the T. & N. O. Railway will be undertaken at present will also be considered, the decision involving the question of a Gowganda service.

The other project under Government consideration is understood to be that affecting the new controlling British interests at the Soo and their contributory railway enterprises.

Mr. William Mackenzie, President of the Canadian Northern, has stated that the railway desires a subsidy of 7,500 acres per mile and a cash grant of \$3,000 per mile for the projected Sudbury and Port Arthur route. Representations from the points interested are backing the request of the railway, but it is not at all likely that the Government will go to such lengths of liberality. The Ministers absolutely refuse to discuss the probable concessions.

Addressing the large deputation yesterday from Sudbury, Fort William, Port Arthur and Copper Cliff, who asked the building of a Government line from Sudbury north to connect with the T. & N. O. at Charlton or Elk Lake, and financial assistance to the C. N. R. in building a branch line in from Oshawong to Gowganda, Sir James Whitney recalled the policy of his Government to restrict money bonuses and appropriations of land for all kinds of railway schemes.

"Our policy," said he, "is aimed at the wildcatting business which has been carried on so extensively all over the Dominion, and under which hundreds of millions of acres and dollars have been paid over to enterprises which existed only on paper, or in the hope that they would secure concessions from the Government at Ottawa or here, or both. Our policy was designed to aim at these adventurers."

"Now," continued the Premier, "there is a point where our policy stops and our responsibility for the development of the resources of the Province begins. The Government has been carefully considering the whole situation, and is at that point now. While the Government is determined to stop the improper making of gifts of money and land to adventurers and schemes entirely dependent on what the future may bring forth, it recognizes that the Canadian Northern is not a speculative enterprise. It is in existence, in operation. Now, whether we will consider it our duty, in view of the representations which have been made to us, to do something to aid in bringing on the bona fide development of the great north is a matter I am not prepared to make a statement upon today. I may say, however, that it is not a case of policy alone, but consideration upon its merits."

FEEBLE-MINDED WOMEN.

DEPUTATION URGES PROVISION FOR THEIR CARE.

Hon. Mr. Hanna Intimates That Government Will Act, but Says the Municipalities Will Have to Do Their Share.

The Government will in all probability bring before the Legislature a comprehensive scheme next session for the care of feeble-minded women. Whatever the plan will be, however, the basis will be a division of cost between the Government and the municipalities. This was in effect the statement made by Hon. W. J. Hanna yesterday to about 150 delegates from the National Council of Women who waited upon him. The deputation included Lady Edgar, the Canadian President of the National Council of Women; Mrs. Torrington, President of the Toronto branch; Mrs. Watkins, Hamilton, Vice-President of the National Council; Mrs. Evans, convener of the Committee on the Care of Feeble-minded, and lady representatives from Fort William, Port Arthur, London, St. Catharines, Hamilton, Lindsay, Kingston and Ottawa. The deputation was introduced by Mayor Oliver and Mr. A. Studholme, East Hamilton, and was received by Hon. W. J. Hanna, Provincial Secretary, and Hon. Adam Beck.

Mayor Oliver said that the desire of the deputation was to urge on the Government the importance of establishing a proper refuge in which feeble-minded women might be cared for. Dr. Helen MacMurchy, who had gone deeply into the matter, was of the opinion that a properly conducted refuge, in which the women could be given work suitable for them could be made self-supporting. At present these women, unfortunately, became mothers, and perpetuated and spread a race far below the normal standing. Mrs. Evans, Hamilton; Dr. Smellie, M.P.P.; Mrs. McKellar, Fort William; Mrs. Baker, London; Lady Edgar; Colonel Farewell, Whitby; Dr. Hastings, Mrs. Torrington and others also spoke for the deputation.

In reply Hon. Mr. Hanna, who paid a tribute to the work of Dr. Helen MacMurchy, said in part: "The Government had the work of building the new Central Prison on their hands, but he hoped that by the time another session came around that the Government would have a definite plan which would meet fairly the situation in Ontario. "But," proceeded the Provincial Secretary, "I should like to say to you that represent municipalities, whether cities or townships, that I think it only reasonable that they may expect that that plan will involve a distribution or division of the cost of the maintenance and care of these people between the Province and the municipalities."

Mr. Hanna pointed out that in Great Britain and other countries these matters were a purely local charge, and he deprecated the attitude of many organizations who approached the Government thinking that the entire work could be loaded on them.