

LICENSE BILL**IS IN "BLANK."****Provincial Secretary Puts in Empty Document.****CHANGES FORESHADOWED.****Government Kills Many Bills by Private Members.****Busy Day of Routine in the Legislature—Mr. McGarry Gets a Lesson in Party Discipline — Mr. Proudfoot Asks Further Insurance Information.**

Hon. W. J. Hanna, the Provincial Secretary, introduced his Government bill to amend the liquor license act "in blank" at the Legislature yesterday. When interviewed by The Globe subsequently the Minister said he was not yet prepared to make public any of its provisions. He anticipated the bill would remain blank for some days and its text would not be forthcoming until the second reading. Meantime he had nothing to say concerning it.

As previously intimated in The Globe, it is believed some of the provisions of the new bill will be of a radical character and may include the standardization of licensed hotels, a grappling with the temperance hotel problem in local option districts and a possible provision for the centralizing of licensing authority. The much debated three-fifths local option clause will remain.

In response to the inquiry of Mr. Wm. Proudfoot (Centre Huron) the Attorney-General stated the Government had considered the evidence taken by the Royal Commission on Insurance in 1906, but that no legislation resulting therefrom was contemplated at present.

Lessons in Party Discipline.

The Government spent a considerable portion of the afternoon in killing off a number of members' bills on the order paper. Hon. Mr. Hanna was the chief executioner, and among his victims were Mr. Fripp's bill to amend the municipal act and Mr. Brewster's bill to amend the act respecting companies for supplying steam, heat, electricity or natural gas for heat, light or power.

Mr. T. W. McGarry made a protest against the condemnation of his bill to give hospitals power to expropriate adjoining lands to the extent of ten acres. "If the Minister insists on my withdrawing the bill I suppose I'll have to," said the member for South Renfrew. "But there is necessity for the bill and not a word has been advanced against it."

Sir James Whitney said it would be dangerous to "extend to every imaginable association of people the right to take away the property of their neighbor at a fair valuation."

Execution Not Fair.

"I had received no intimation that the measure was to be dealt with this way," persisted Mr. McGarry. "I think it is not fair to wipe it out without consideration."

The Premier gave assurance that the Government had considered it. "Recollect this," said Sir James, "that the duty of the Government is no light one. The proportion of bills objected to by the Governments in power is being decreased, and it is

wrong that they should decrease. There is too much of a tendency on the part of Governments—and it applies to this Government, too—to allow bills to slip by without due consideration."

"Under the circumstances," concluded Mr. McGarry. "I would be remiss in my duty if I did not bow as gracefully as I can." (Laughter and applause.)

Prohibits Lengthy Franchises.

Hon. Mr. Beck's Government bill respecting certain municipal by-laws and agreements was considered in its committee stage. The provisions prohibit municipalities from entering into contracts for more than one year without a vote of the people. The act will apply to waterworks, gas, electric light, heat and power companies and similar works.

Mr. H. Eilber (South Huron) asked that an exemption be made in favor of police villages, where it was impossible to take a vote. This was emphasized by Hon. A. G. MacKay, who pointed out that other small places might be detrimentally affected. The general principle both members held to be good.

An Exception for Brantford.

Hon. Mr. Beck said that the Government was ready to meet the difficulties by the introduction of a clause covering the points raised. The Minister of Power also announced a change in the date upon which the clauses took effect from March 11 to March 16. This, it is understood, is a change made at the request of Brantford in order that the contract recently made by that city with the Cataract Power Company shall not be affected.

Hon. Mr. Cochrane's Government bill amending the Burlington Beach act was put through committee, despite the protest of Mr. D. Reed (South Wentworth), who claimed neither the township nor the county was being fairly dealt with.

Some Insurance Matters.

Mr. Proudfoot has given notice that he will move for a return of all permits to effect insurance with foreign unregistered corporations, insurers or underwriters, issued since the seventeenth day of March, 1902, by the Insurance Registrar under section 86a of the Ontario insurance act as amended by II. Edward VII., chapter 12, and IV. Edward VII., chapter 15, and of all letters and applications in respect of which such permits were issued.

ELECT ALL BY BALLOT.**ORANGEMEN'S PROPOSAL FOR BOARDS OF EDUCATION.****Want Separate School Representatives Chosen by Secret Ballot—Legislative Battle Over School Bills Likely—Minister Was Interviewed.**

That in all cases of Boards of Education formed under the new legislation introduced by Hon. Dr. Pyne, Minister of Education, the representatives elected thereto shall be chosen by ballot, is the essence of the proposals submitted to the Government yesterday by a representative deputation of Ontario Orangemen and co-operating fraternal organizations.

Under this proposal the separate schools will be required to elect their trustees who serve on the cosmopolitan board by ballot. The petition for the amendment was formally presented to the Minister of Education.

The deputation of Orangemen interviewed personally the various members of the House interested. Eastern Ontario's representation is headed by Grand Master James Burney, Kingston; T. P. Collins, Millbrook; Duncan Munroe, Cornwall, and A. E. McLean, Newcastle, while western Ontario has Wm. Lee, Toronto, and Rev. Mr. Fish, Aurora. They also took exception to the bills of Messrs. D. Racine (Russell) and T. W. McGarry (South Renfrew), enlarging the present powers of the separate school.

THROUGH THE OLD FORT.**CLAUSE IN CITY'S BILL IS APPROVED OF.****Legislature's Committee is Agreeable—The Clause Respecting Superannuation of Police May be Reconsidered Very Soon.**

The "Old Fort" clause of the Toronto bill occasioned another battle before the Legislative Private Bills Committee yesterday. Mr. J. E. Alexander, representing the West End Ratepayers' Association, opposed the clause on the ground that a vote of the ratepayers should be taken before it was approved. Major Collins, on behalf of the Army and Navy Veterans, stated that he had been informed by the Manager of the Toronto Railway Company that the railway did not want to run through the Fort, only to secure an eastern entrance, which could be arranged by another route. The Major protested against demolishing the stockade.

"It is absurd to talk about demolishing anything I saw there," put in Mr. Ferguson (Grenville). "There was not enough there to build a hen-coop."

Mr. W. H. Hoyle (North Ontario) favored the clause on the ground that the rural constituencies were interested in the Exhibition, though he adhered to the proposition that the ratepayers should first vote upon it.

Mr. Wm. Rankin said he favored the eastern entrance, but he opposed the principle of legislation without a vote of the people.

Mr. E. Biggar, for the Historical Society, spoke on the same lines.

"I went there—and examined the ground," said Major Craig (Wellington), "and a more desolate, forsaken, neglected spot does not exist within a hundred miles of Toronto."

Mr. W. F. Nickle (Kingston) opposed the clause unless a vote of the people were taken.

Mr. T. W. McGarry (South Renfrew) strongly championed the clause. After seeing the Fort, he said, he could see no possibility of desecration. "There is too much sentimental hypocrisy," he said. "Too much talking and too little action."

Miss FitzGibbon, leading a deputation of the Daughters of the Empire, spoke against the clause on patriotic grounds.

Mrs. Nordheimer also spoke in the same cause.

The clause was adopted, Mr. Nickle (Kingston) being the only negative vote.

Mr. John Shaw (North Toronto) asked for a reopening of the clause to grant superannuation to police officers.

Hon. Mr. Hanna said that the clause should not, in his opinion, be dealt with until the Premier had been consulted.

The committee decided that notification would have to be given prior to the reopening of the clause.

Mayor Oliver expressed himself well pleased with the action of the Private Bills Committee of the Legislature in passing the portion of the city's bill relating to the Bathurst street bridge. His Worship said the city would start in at once to construct the bridge, as it was desired to have the eastern entrance to the Exhibition grounds completed in time to be used during the next Exhibition. He intimated that the talk of the G.T.R. and C.P.R. Companies elevating the tracks at Bathurst street two feet, in connection with the viaduct plans, would not stop the city proceeding to construct the Bathurst street bridge. The bridge is to cost \$135,000.