

, FEBRUARY 1, 1916.

WORK HOURS AND WAGES.

MR. ALLAN STUDHOLME GIVES NOTICE OF BILL.

The Labor Man's First Legislative Enactment—Proposes an Eight-hour Day and a Minimum Wage of Twenty Cents Per Hour—To Stand By Bill.

Labor was in the limelight at yesterday's fifteen-minute session of the Legislature.

Mr. Allan Studholme, who has comprised "the party" so far as Ontario's legislative halls are concerned, for two years past, sought to present his first piece of legislation. The Hamilton man, having no seconder, contented himself by giving notice of a bill and asking the House to assent to its first reading.

The Premier pointed out that the proceeding was not in order, that it was necessary for the Labor man to prepare his bill and submit it when moving the first reading. Mr. Speaker so ruled, and Mr. Studholme promised to proceed accordingly.

The bill, Mr. Studholme explained, would be entitled "An act respecting fair wages and Labor regulations." It would be based on the measure introduced during the last session by Mr. A. E. Fripp (Ottawa), and withdrawn by its sponsor at the request of Hon. James Duff, Minister of Agriculture, on the closing day of the session. "But I will not withdraw mine," declared Mr. Studholme stoutly.

The measure proposes to establish a statutory eight-hour working day and regulation wages of not less than twenty cents an hour for all workers except farm laborers. If Mr. Studholme stands by his guns as announced, its disposal will cause many heart-burnings among members representing laboring constituencies.

Four additional Government bills, the result of the Statute Commission's work, were brought down. Sir James Whitney introduced the measure respecting the Queen Victoria and Niagara Falls Park, while Hon. Mr. Duff was responsible for those respecting horticultural and agricultural societies respectively, and the right of property in swarms of bees.
