

What the Legislature Did

Passed the second reading of Hon. Adam Beck's Hydro-radial railway bill.
Legal Committee reported to the House bills to publish campaign contributions and prevent contributions from Government contractors, corporations, etc.
Received report of Redistribution Committee.
Gave second reading to bill amending liquor license act and rejected proposal to abolish three-fifths clause and make local option county-wide.
Accepted amendments to Ontario election laws.
Workmen's compensation bill out of committee stage; now stands for third reading.

COMPENSATION BILL IS READY FOR THIRD READING

SLIGHT AMENDMENTS MADE AFFECTING BASIS OF COMPUTING AWARD.

The workmen's compensation act underwent a few additional amendments in committee in the Legislature yesterday. The new clause which had been introduced relating to the computing of average earnings was struck out. It is understood that this clause was objectionable to the labor interests. The clause which was eliminated reads: "Where a workman has been employed for the twelve months preceding his accident by the same employer his average weekly earnings shall be computed by dividing the total sum earned by him in such period by fifty-two, and where he has been employed for a less period the estimate shall be made as nearly as possible to what he would probably have earned in such twelve months, and his average weekly earnings shall be computed by dividing such estimated sum by fifty-two." A few minor alterations were also made, and the bill was reported and will come up for third reading to-day.

Mr. Rowell, making some references to the bill, pointed out how extremely valuable it was from the standpoint of the employer and the employee to have adequate provision made for first aid, and he submitted it would have been wise had the Provincial Treasurer taken this into consideration and made suitable provision. He also alluded to the continuation in the bill of the two schedules, saying he thought it would be simpler in the working out of the act and more beneficial to the employer and the employee if they simply applied the one principle and transferred from schedule 2 to schedule 1 the industries put under that head. The Opposition leader repeated that it was preferable that the Commissioners should be appointed for a term.

Hon. Mr. Lucas agreed with what Mr. Rowell had said with regard to the question of first aid, but pointed out that for such provision there must be in some form or other contributions from all interested parties and they could only establish an arbitrary first-aid provision. It was a problem yet to be worked out, and he did not think meantime it would be feasible to establish a first-aid scheme.

Mr. Lucas' bill to amend the succession duty act was also reported.

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F. McGarry
Queen and Duna
formed the Com.
had purchased three
street adjoining the pr.
for his new hotel, which
frontage of 53 feet and a
100 feet.

PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S MEN GET COAL AT CUT PRICES

INSPECTOR OF PRISONS SAYS THEY BUY FROM GOVERNMENT CONTRACTORS.

Dr. E. R. Rogers, Inspector of Prisons and Public Charities for the Province, admitted yesterday under cross-examination in the Public Accounts Committee that he had secured coal from the companies that supply the Government at contract prices. He maintained, however, that he had paid for it himself. Other officials of the Provincial Secretary's Department, he said, also got coal in this way.

The tenders from coal companies, he admitted, were sent in without distinguishing marks on the envelope, and might easily be opened by mistake. "The Minister opens them all and he sends them on to me, and I report back to him. The Minister makes the final decision."

"Do you know if employees of the department get coal from the companies awarded the contracts at the same rate as the Government?" asked Mr. Bowman.

"Yes, but they pay for it themselves," was the reply.

Witness did not know who the officials were.

"Did you get any coal yourself that way?"

"Yes, but I paid for it myself." The arrangements, he said, were made between the dealers and himself, and not between the department and himself. There was never any instruction, he stated, that coal tender envelopes were to be marked, and declared that this was entirely in the hands of the Minister.

BILL AFFECTING ELECTIONS REPORTED IN LEGISLATURE

DOMINION LIST TO BE USED UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

Hon. Mr. Hearst's bill to amend the election laws engendered some discussion on the proposal to make it compulsory to use the Dominion list, if not more than six months old, and between that period and one year such list could also be used by consent of the first Minister of the Executive Council and the leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Rowell did not think this wise. They might have such entirely different conditions in the two contests that the question of registration would assume an entirely different form. He thought they should prepare their own lists, except by consent of both sides of the House, and moved an amendment on these lines.

Hon. Mr. Hearst thought when opportunities were given for the registering of all parties for the same franchise no harm came from the use of a list not more than six months old.

Mr. Rowell's amendment was defeated, and after several other matters had been discussed the bill was reported.