

as a final Court of Revision just as they now sit.

Mr. J. C. Elliott (West Middlesex)—This will make no difference in the voters' lists being prepared by the various assessors.

Hon. Mr. Lucas—They can go right on.

The bill was given its first reading.

Must Refine in Canada.

Hon. G. Howard Ferguson introduced a bill that in regard to mineral lands patented or leased hereafter the ores must be treated within the Dominion of Canada, except in cases which may be accepted by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council.

S. A. ARMSTRONG PAID BY TWO GOVERNMENTS

Works for Dominion Under Leave From Ontario

NOT VERY COMMUNICATIVE

One Brother-in-law in Civil Service, Another Sells Drugs to Ontario In- stitutions—J. T. White Fails to At- tend Committee.

There was more "snap" in the proceedings of the Public Accounts Committee of the Legislature yesterday than there has been at any previous sitting this session. Mr. Hartley Dewart was keen in his examination of Mr. S. A. Armstrong, Assistant Provincial Secretary, who was short, sharp, and at times non-committal in some of his replies. There was, in addition to this, somewhat of a breeze when Mr. William Proudfoot raised the question as to the appearance of Mr. J. T. White, Solicitor to the Treasury, who had been expected for examination in connection with the Windsor racetrack matter. It was stated that Mr. White would not be in the city until to-day (Saturday), and Chairman McCrea assured the committee that Mr. White would be present at the next meeting.

Paid by Two Governments.

Mr. Armstrong, in reply to Mr. Dewart, said he was appointed Director by the Military Hospitals Commission on 18th December, 1916, the appointment being under the Dominion Government.

Mr. Dewart—Since that day you have been in the pay of the Dominion Government—at what salary?

Mr. Armstrong—I don't think that is pertinent.

Mr. Dewart—At the same time you are in the pay of the Dominion Government you receive remuneration from the Province at the rate of \$4,000 per annum.

Mr. Armstrong—Yes. I received three months' leave of absence with pay.

Mr. Dewart—Three months means \$1,000, and at the same time in the pay of the Dominion Government.

Mr. Armstrong's Relatives.

The member for Southwest Toronto then questioned Mr. Armstrong as to the appointment of Mr. J. D. McGibbon as Deputy Registrar of the Provincial Secretary's Department. Mr. McGibbon is a brother-in-law of Mr. Armstrong.

Mr. Dewart—You are responsible for his appointment.

Mr. Armstrong—I am not.

Mr. Dewart—On your recommendation the appointment was made, was it not?

Mr. Armstrong—No.

Mr. Dewart—Where was he em-

ployed before he came here?

Mr. Armstrong—I do not know that he was employed anywhere.

Mr. Dewart—He was studying law in California, was he not?

Mr. Armstrong—I am not aware of it. I think he was probably dealing in real estate on his own account.

Mr. Dewart—Where?

Mr. Armstrong—I cannot say.

Connection With Institutions.

Mr. Dewart—All the institutions—the hospitals for the insane and other large institutions—were institutions you had to deal with as Deputy Provincial Secretary?

Mr. Armstrong—Correct.

Mr. Dewart—On page 163 of the Public Accounts, the last item, under the heading of Hospital for the Insane, Brockville, I see McGibbon's drug store, drugs and chemicals, \$68.45. Where is that drug store?

Mr. Armstrong—Sarnia.

Mr. Dewart—What is the name of the Mr. McGibbon who conducts that?

Mr. Armstrong—P. T.

Mr. Dewart—He is another brother-in-law of yours?

The answer was in the affirmative.

Sold Drugs to Institutions.

The member for Southwest Toronto then went over the items in connection with the different institutions where the name of the McGibbon Drug Store appeared, and calculated that the total items were \$1,644. In connection with each item Mr. Dewart asked if it related to the same party and the answers he got were: "I presume so," "That is the inference," and latterly, "Yes" and "No doubt."

At one point Mr. Dewart firmly said: "You know it to be the same party," and Mr. Armstrong replied: "I do not know more than you do."

Mr. Dewart—Is it the same party or is it not?

Mr. Armstrong—I presume it is. I have not seen the invoices, but the inference would be the same. I am not familiar with any other.

An Aggressive Canvasser.

Mr. Armstrong added that he thought the bulk of the purchases covered disinfectants. McGibbon as a jobber canvassed, he thought, the institutions in the same way as any of these salesmen. A London merchant had told him that he had not been able to get much business, and he asked him why. The reply was: "McGibbon of Sarnia gets in ahead of me."

Where is J. T. White?

Mr. Proudfoot wanted some information why Mr. J. T. White had not yet been available in connection with the Windsor matter, and declared that at the time of Mr. Wigle's motion an attempt had been made to have the inquiry called off.

The Chairman said he knew nothing about this and Mr. Proudfoot must confine himself to what had taken place in that committee. He (the Chairman) was not going to listen to anything which had to do with the proceedings in the House.

A lively incident closed with the assurance that Mr. White would be on hand at the next sitting.