

CARE OF BLIND NEEDING STUDY

Ontario Assoc. for Blind Seeks
Appointment of Com-
mission

SIGHTLESS WAR VETERANS

Government is Urged to Make Pro-
vision for Rehabilitation of
Blinded Soldiers.

A deputation of members of the Ontario Association for the Blind and the Canadian National Library for the Blind, headed by Mr. J. H. Hancock of Galt, President of the former association, waited on the Ontario Government yesterday morning, asking for the appointment of a permanent Commission for the Blind to look after the Institution for the Blind at Brantford, and to take care of blind persons from infancy. It was pointed out that there are some 1,500 blind persons in the Province, and that this number will be increased when Ontario's blinded soldiers return from overseas. The deputation asked that the blind be compelled to attend school like other children in the country, and receive proper education, so that they may become self-sustaining and not a drain on the country. They also urged that the people of the Province should be shown that blindness in youth may be prevented. The appointment of a Field Secretary to keep in touch with the blind after they leave school was also advocated, as well as the appointment of proper teachers for the Brantford School.

Caring for Blinded Soldiers.

Capt. Baker of the Toronto Hydro-electric System, a returned blinded soldier, urged that the Government should prepare to deal with blinded soldiers, and give them a special course of study.

In reply, the Prime Minister said he had given this question more serious consideration than any other during the past year. He said the Government had appointed the best man they could find to the principalship of the Brantford School, a Liberal in politics. Sir William added that the Government will do for the Brantford School what will be best for the blind. The work is not yet finished, he said.

WILL DEVELOP FUEL RESERVES

Bill Introduced Providing for
Fuel Investigation
Program

MAY APPOINT COMMISSION

Basis of Co-operation in Peat De-
velopment Scheme Sought Be-
tween Dominion and On-
tario Governments.

To carry out a comprehensive program for the development of the fuel reserves of the Province, the Ontario Government intends to appoint either a Fuel Controller or a Commission to conduct an investigation, and take charge of these resources. The necessary legislation giving the Government wide powers to carry out this work was introduced in the Legislature yesterday by Hon. G. Howard Ferguson, and the bill was given its first reading. The Minister of Lands, Forests and Mines explained to the House that the bill clothes the Government with authority to carry out the program for the development of the peat bogs, for which \$100,000 was set aside in the supplementary estimates.

Co-operate With Federal Govt.

After a number of conferences, he said, a basis has almost been arrived at between the Dominion Government and the Ontario Government by which they will co-operate in respect of the administrative work that will be carried on for the development of the peat resources. Labor-saving devices will have to be introduced, as the handling of the peat by men makes the cost exceedingly high. A number of devices have been invented, and these will be put in operation to see whether or not they are practical. The Government desires wide and elastic powers in this work, because it is not known what conditions may be encountered. Economy is desired, and for that reason there must not be overlapping between the Dominion and Provincial Governments. As soon as the arrangement is completed between the two Governments, machinery will be placed on the ground and work commenced at once. Authority is also sought in the bill to expropriate lands that may be necessary in the carrying out of the experiments.

Need Fuel Controller.

Mr. Proudfoot, the Opposition Leader, was anxious to find out how far the Government intends to go in taking out wood for use next winter.

"We propose to meet conditions as they arise in the most efficient and best possible manner," replied Mr. Ferguson. "We are taking ample authority to do whatever may be necessary. We have been making a thorough study of the fuel supply, and if my honorable friend sat in my office he would think there is ample work for a Fuel Controller. The whole economic problem is one that has to be dealt with by somebody, and the whole fuel problem is so acute that it should be in the hands of some competent person."

As the cost of coal has gone up, so has the cost of labor increased as well, Mr. Ferguson continued. It was one thing to compete with coal five or six years ago and a different thing to do so now.