

suit of the method followed in the Dominion election. Under the act eight weeks were allowed to elapse between nomination day and the election. This length of time permitted of much turmoil and embitterment of feeling, which were not aroused as much under the old system, where only one week was allowed to elapse. It was unfair to the Opposition that enumerators appointed by the Government should be allowed to make their rounds during the period when the feeling immediately preceding an election was so bitter. He pointed out at length the advantages of reverting to the old system of having the municipal Assessors compile the lists.

Mr. V. A. Sinclair (South Oxford) said that there were abnormal times ahead, and they would perhaps be more difficult for the Government to meet than the war period. He deprecated the idea of having irrigation of small holdings, contending that there was plenty of fertile land in the Province without that.

Mr. Allan Studholme (East Hamilton) denounced the enumerator system of preparing the voters' lists, and cited several irregularities in the Dominion system. While the Ontario Government had not been to blame for that, similar mistakes had been made in the recent St. Catharines by-election.

Hon. I. B. Lucas spoke briefly on the amendment, and concluded the debate. He said there would be minor amendments to the Election Act introduced later in the session, and suggestions could be made at that time. The amendment, if carried, would double the work of Assessors each year, whereas the Provincial lists were required only once every four years.

# BUDGET SPEECH COMING TO-DAY

Legislature Will Adjourn After  
Hon. T. W. McGarry  
Speaks

## BACK TO THE LAND

The Legislature will go into Committee on Supply this afternoon, and the Provincial Treasurer, Hon. T. W. McGarry, will present his Budget address. An arrangement has been made between the Opposition Leader and the Prime Minister whereby the House will adjourn as soon as Mr. McGarry concludes his address. The adjournment will be moved by Mr. C. M. Bowman, the Opposition financial critic, who will continue the debate next Tuesday. This is the first time this arrangement has been entered into between the parties. It was pointed out to Mr. McGarry by Mr. Proudfoot that such an adjournment would give the Opposition a better chance to consider the information contained in the address, and the Provincial Treasurer consented to the delay.

Mr. Nelson Parliament, Liberal member for Prince Edward, is anxious that the Legislature should take some action to ascertain the best means of encouraging a return of people to rural life in Ontario. In a resolution which he will introduce in the House to-day he points out that the shortage of agricultural labor has been aggravated in the past few years, and he suggests that a non-partisan Commission, including representatives of agriculture and Labor, should be named to inquire into the conditions which ordinarily account for the continuous diminution of the rural population in the Province and to report to the House the facts and recommendations as to the steps which should be taken to augment and maintain the rural population.