

THINKS HOUSE IS TOO LARGE

Liberal Member Moves to
Have Number in Legis-
lature Lessened

COST OF LIVING LAWS

Mr. William McDonald, Liberal member for North Bruce, believes that the representation of the people in the Legislature is too large, unwieldy and expensive. In view of this he has given notice of a resolution to be introduced in the House urging the Government to reduce the representation to that of Ontario in the Federal Parliament. He points out that the cost of having the 111 members in the House for 1917-18 was \$150,337.80.

Mr. T. R. Atkinson, Liberal member for North Norfolk, has given notice of a motion that he will introduce urging the House to impress upon the Government "the necessity for passing remedial legislation providing for such matters as a fair wage, fair prices for the products of the farm, encouraging men to go back to the land, pensions for widows with dependent children, the suppression of feeble-mindedness and social diseases, and by making a close study of all matters relating to the health and welfare of the people of this Province (including unemployment) with a view to the enlargement of the comfort and happiness of the masses."

Little sessional business was transacted at yesterday's sitting. It was private members' day, and several private bills were advanced through the committee stage. The only one that was discussed, and then only briefly, was the bill to incorporate "The Church of the Christian Brotherhood." Major J. C. Tölmie (Windsor) asked what Church body it was, and was informed by the Attorney-General that a memoranda had been submitted by Bishop Evans that the new organization was one that had broken away from the local church of the Latter Day Saints. As it was a religious body the Government did not investigate its doctrines.

Hon. W. D. McPherson remarked that under clause 3 of the bill it was provided that it had to submit to the laws of the Province.

Sir William Hearst announced at the opening of the House that a special train would leave the city at 8.40 this morning to convey the members desirous of attending the funeral of the late Hon. W. J. Hanna to do so. In view of the large number of members of the House who desire to attend, the Prime Minister moved that it adjourn from last night until Wednesday.

A SOCIAL CENTRE FOR RURAL LIFE

Government to Aid in Estab-
lishing Community Halls
and Athletic Grounds

Legislation for the development of community halls and athletic grounds for the benefit of rural Ontario was introduced in the Legislature yesterday by Hon. George S. Henry, Minister of Agriculture. The Government believes that the community spirit should be fostered in the country districts, as it develops co-operation and a greater feeling of contentment. It is believed that community halls will provide a social centre that will be of considerable service to the farmers.

It is not the intention of the Government to build these halls in a hit-or-miss fashion in the Province or to foot the total bill. The act introduced yesterday provides for the Government making a grant of 25 per cent. of the cost of constructing a community hall up to a maximum of \$2,000. The type of hall to be erected will have to be approved by the department, although the title to the property will be vested in the township, this to give it permanency. While it is anticipated that the Township Councils will in most cases take the initiative to build a hall, local organizations will be permitted to undertake the work.

The Government grant of 25 per cent. will be made upon the value of the building, and in addition to the site the local interests must provide a suitable field. The halls, it is hoped, will furnish a meeting-place for the community, for dances, social events of all kinds and meetings. Club rooms could be built for women's institute meetings and for farmers' organizations generally. Should the Township Council, or whatever body undertakes to erect the building, desire to provide extra accommodation, it will have to meet the extra cost itself.