

SATURDAY, MAY 22, 1920.

MUCH BUSINESS IN LEGISLATURE AT A.M. SESSION

Members in Good Humor and
Progress Pleases the
Premier

NEXT WEEK ALLURING

Many Invitations Extended—
Want Hydro Estimates
Itemized

For the first time this year the Legislature held a morning session yesterday and made such good progress that it evoked the praise of the Prime Minister, who said that everything scheduled for that morning had been cleared up. At a little past noon the House adjourned until 3 o'clock on Tuesday, Monday being a holiday.

The members were all in good humor, and were made the more so by the plentitude of invitations handed out to them. Mr. Charles Swayze, Niagara Falls, asked that the members visit that city and go over the Chippawa Canal scheme. The Premier said that next Friday might be a good day to go, as he hoped the House would have finished its sitting on Thursday.

Raney and Race Week.

Hon. Manning Doherty was next with the intimation that a special train would be available some day next week for the members to visit the Ontario Agricultural College. Mr. Price asked how he expected to get the Attorney-General to get

away from the city during race week, and Mr. Doherty replied that he would have lost all he owned by that time. Mr. Raney smiled blandly through it all.

Hon. F. C. Biggs drew the attention of the members to the Dominion Roads Congress to be held in Winnipeg June 1, 2 and 3. A special train would leave Toronto a week from Saturday night, he said.

Local Bills Advance.

Mr. Price introduced a bill extending the time covering Toronto legislation on soldiers' insurance to January 1, 1920. Several other bills of a local character passed through the committee stage.

Consideration was deferred on the Minimum Wage Bill in committee.

When discussing the estimates, Mr. Dewart said that he had intended to move an amendment to an item of Hydro expenditure, as a protest against the failure of the Commission to give the Government information it should get. The resolution would be one of protest against putting in the Hydro estimates in a bulk sum. He had decided, however, he said, not to move his amendment, but to content himself at the present time by making a protest against the manner in which the estimates were presented.

Objects to Lump Sums.

The Premier said he concurred in Mr. Dewart's view. He did not think, said Mr. Drury, that the estimates should be presented in a lump sum. Such manner of presentation would not occur next year. Col. Carmichael had certain details now and would give them if the House desired.

Col. Carmichael said that sometimes it was difficult to put in details of estimates for everything, as the cost of certain articles might go beyond the estimate, and the Auditor would not permit them to be purchased in this event. He said that the Hydro engineers carefully worked out the requirements which the bulk sum represented.

Thomas Marshall (Lincoln) asked if surpluses in certain municipalities could be used to wipe out deficits in other centres. Col. Carmichael replied that the rates were estimated at the beginning of the year, and a final adjustment made later.

Export of Power.

At question time Col. Carmichael told Major Kennedy that the Ontario Power Company exported 50,000 horsepower, the Canadian Niagara Power Company had license to export 73,500 horsepower, and the Toronto Power Company license to export 46,917 horsepower. Neither the Government nor the Hydro knew the exact amount exported; that information would have to come from the companies.

Mr. Hogarth (Port Arthur) asked why the Government had changed its attitude regarding the Great Lakes Paper Company taking Hydro power. Mr. Drury replied that the Government had not changed its attitude, but was upholding its rights through the courts.

The Toronto bill creating the Transportation Commission passed through committee. Capt. J. C. Ramsden thought the clause permitting the members to be paid should read, "shall be paid," but the House thought otherwise.