

# GIVE MEMBERS ACCOMMODATION

Novel Suggestion by R. L.  
Brackin in Debate in  
Legislature

## ESTIMATES DISCUSSED

The Legislature spent nearly four hours last night going, item by item, over the main estimates. Some interest was occasioned toward the end of the sitting when R. L. Brackin, West Kent, contended that the Legislature should provide office accommodation for members. Hon. Mr. Biggs thought that about \$2,000,000 would provide the suggested accommodation.

But members were not altogether satisfied it could not be done. Premises on University avenue were suggested, and R. L. Stevenson, London, suggested the Veterinary College. Mr. Dewart backed up Mr. Brackin's contention that more consideration for the comfort of the members was forthcoming from Governments in power.

When the Legislature came to consideration of the main estimates, Mr. H. H. Dewart asked if Premier Drury was prepared to give the House any light on the subject of civil service reconstruction. The Premier admitted that nothing definite had been decided on by the Government, upon which the Leader of the Liberal Opposition declared that such items should be struck out of the estimates for want of adequate information upon which to give them consideration.

Mr. R. L. Brackin called the attention of the House to large expenditures proposed by the Attorney-General for the retention of outside counsel to conduct the legal business of the Province. Mr. Brackin contended that more of the business of the Attorney-General's Department in the courts should be conducted by the Attorney-General and his deputies and assistants. Under the old Government, Mr. Brackin said, a form of graft was countenanced in the farming out of legal business to friends of the Administration. Charles McCrae, Conservative, offered the defense that good results had attended expenditure of money by the Conservative Government on efficient counsel.

Sam Clarke, Northumberland, pointed out for the benefit of the Attorney-General that if there was one thing more than another that elected the present Government it was the belief among the electorate that they had been in the past hoodooed by lawyer Governments. If the Attorney-General would simplify the laws of the Province he could be the biggest man in the Dominion.

## HENRY'S SUGGESTION ADOPTED BY PREMIER

Bill Affecting Taxation of  
Improvements Has Been  
Modified

Premier Drury has adopted the suggestion made by Hon. Geo. S. Henry in amendment to the act allowing municipalities to wipe out gradually the assessment on improvements.

The bill was in Committee of the Whole yesterday morning and the Premier struck out the clause calling for a vote on a petition signed by ten per cent. of the electors. The Municipal Council is given the right to say if the municipality shall vote on the question. He amended the act further by putting in a clause that the by-law doing away with taxation on improvement, if agreed to by the Council, must be submitted to the people on the regular municipal election day.

With these amendments the bill passed committee and is ready for third reading.

## Amount of Compensation Under New Act Reduced

The percentage of compensation under the amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Act was yesterday reduced from 75 to 66 2-3, when the bill was given a second reading. Hon. Walter Rollo, Minister of Labor, who introduced the bill, announced the reduction, which has been expected for some days. The 75 per cent. compensation was the target of much of the criticism. Members in the House protested, and manufacturers and others affected, sent deputations in protest. It is expected that the bill will now carry with very little opposition, although its details will be debated in Committee of the Whole.