

\$12,600 REFUND IN TIMBER DUES

One Result From Investigation, of Past Transactions

D.T.A. COMES UNDER FIRE

More than two hours of the time of the Legislature yesterday was devoted to answering members' inquiries. Then the debate on the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne was resumed by Sergt.-Major J. McNamara, Soldier-Labor member for Riverdale.

The Ontario Temperance Act was the basis of a number of inquiries, chiefly on the part of Messrs. Sinclair, Tolmie and Forbes Godfrey.

Detailed information regarding the appointment and activities of W. J. Lannin, recently appointed Inspector of Provincial Police for western Ontario, was furnished by the Attorney-General. Inspector Lannin, the Minister stated, was responsible to the Board of License Commissioners in respect of O.T.A. offenses and to the Superintendent of Provincial Police in other matters. His salary was \$4,000 per annum, and his supervision confined to the counties of Essex, Kent, Lambton, Elgin and Middlesex. From the date of his appointment, November 19, 1920, to the end of January, 1921, fines for infringement of the O.T.A. to the total of \$33,003 had been collected. His age at appointment was 44 years.

Carrying of Firearms.

Answering Dr. Forbes Godfrey, Hon. Mr. Raney stated that there was no regulation under the O.T.A. whereby officers engaged in its enforcement were provided with firearms or empowered to carry same.

Wellington Hay, Perth, had several inquiries regarding Provincial loans placed since November 13, 1919. The Provincial Treasurer cited the official indices of ten loans, totalling over \$65,000,000, of which all but two had been sold by public tender. The net prices received ranged from 90.41 (New York funds) to 104.003, with interest rates running from 4.70 to 6.81 per cent.

In the matter of queries regarding Civil Service appointments, the Attorney-General stated, in reply to Mr. Lang, that J. B. Clark, appointed Registrar of Deeds for Kent county, was the person who resigned to provide a seat for Hon. M. Doherty; that the emoluments of the office in the year 1919 were over \$4,400, and that the Deputy Registrar, Miss C. J. Burton, had given satisfaction in her position.

The King's Printer.

Mr. McLeod, Liberal, was inquisitive regarding the qualifications of C. W. James, recently appointed to the office of King's Printer. The Provincial Treasurer stated that no qualifications had been cited in the recommendation of Mr. James, and that the new official would undertake certain of the duties of Purchasing Agent.

Answers to miscellaneous queries included the following facts:

Nineteen commissions had been appointed by the Government since November 11, 1919; the costs of distribution of an address by Hon. W. E. Raney, K.C., before the Canadian Bar Association on September 2, 1920, had not been borne by the Government, nor had said publication been authorized by the Government; cost of the sittings of the O.T.A. Committee were not yet known, nor

had evidence been taken on oath; the Government had authorized the printing of 5,000 copies of Public Service Bulletin, Vol. 4, No. 6, at a cost of \$270.30, and there was no record that any of these had been sent to U.F.O. Clubs or any particular organization.

Spracklin Again.

Col. Cooper, N. W. Toronto, inquired of the Attorney-General whether or not the action of Fleming v. Spracklin et al., tried at the Sandwich Sessions last fall, was an ordinary civil action for damages. The Attorney-General replied in the affirmative.

Hon. Beniah Bowman told Mr. Stover that the sum of \$12,600 had been received up to December 3, 1920, "in respect of timber dues owing to the Government from past transactions and arising out of the so-called timber probe."

The Premier stated, in reply to Mr. Thompson, that the report of the Commission on Hydro-radials would be laid before the House this session, if received in time. To Mr. Magladery he stated that construction work on the T. & N. O. Railway from Cochrane north had not been started.

About Motors.

Answering A. M. Rankin of Frontenac, Hon. W. R. Rollo said nine motor cars had been purchased by the Provincial Board of Health for district nurses from M. and H. Jerome, Dundas, at a cost of \$1,217 each.

Hon. F. C. Biggs told the member for Frontenac that the automobile markers were bought from J. L. Wright & Company.

"Of where?" asked H. H. Dewart. "That was not asked," replied the Minister.

"Oh, I thought it must be Dundas," remarked Mr. Dewart.

"It doesn't happen to be," retorted the Minister.

McNamara Speaks Out.

Resuming the debate on the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, J. McNamara, Soldier-Labor member for Riverdale, took the floor.

Requested, he said, to declare privately his reasons for crossing the House, he was man enough to do it publicly. "The principles of Labor I entirely support," he declared, "but the policies of the Independent Labor party I do not support in their entirety."

G. G. Halcrow, Labor, East Hamilton—Does the honorable member intend to co-operate with the Labor group or does he intend to proceed as a lone member of the Legislature?

For Good of Province.

Sgt.-Major McNamara—I will co-operate with Labor, Farmer, Conservative or Liberal for the well-being of this Province.

The speaker requested and received absolute denial from W. J. Johnston, U.F.O. member for South Lanark, of a statement credited to him in a Brockville newspaper to the effect that four members of the Labor group were extreme radicals. Mr. Johnston declared that it was "a very badly distorted report."

If necessary, Sgt.-Major McNamara declared, the nation in the present unemployment crisis should conscript its surplus wealth to feed its starving defenders in the late war.

He referred to the O. T. A. as "Hon. Mr. Raney's dreaded monster," and urged that its enforcement be not unfair.

A Word for Backus.

Sgt.-Major McNamara closed with a criticism of the Backus deal. British rather than American capital, he thought, should have been enlisted in the development of Ontario resources.

J. G. Sandy, U.F.O. member for South Victoria, commended individually the whole Drury Ministry.

Rural education, he said, was of prime importance, yet suffered from certain handicaps under existing regulations. There were hardships because of inequality in rates and grants.

Major J. C. Tolmie moved adjournment of the debate.