

GET STATED CASE BEFORE INJUNCTION

Attorney - General Revises Act to Prevent Block- ing of Inquiries

Attorney-General Raney's original amendment to the Public Inquiries Act was withdrawn by the Government in the Ontario Legislature yesterday, and a new measure substituted. Whereas the former bill proposed to vest with the Attorney-General the power of overriding legal proceedings to halt public inquiries, the new one refers anyone attacking the jurisdiction of a commission first to the commission itself and ultimately to the Appellate Division.

The legislation is aimed primarily at the Spanish River Pulp & Paper Co.'s injunction halting the Riddell-Latchford timber inquiry, and, besides, ousting the Timber Commission from the legal morass, would apply to all subsequent situations of a similar nature. Premier Drury explained, after the introduction of the new bill yesterday, that the change was made with a view to saving hours of discussion in the Legislature.

According to the terms of the measure, an individual affected by the inquiry is directed to the commissioner or commissioners, who shall state a case in writing to the Appellate Division, setting forth the circumstances. If the commission will not grant a stated case the applicant still has recourse to the Division Court for an order. Pending the decision of the stated case no further proceedings shall be taken by the commissioner or commissioners with respect to the matter in question.

The new bill was given first reading.

NO FURTHER NEED OF FUEL CONTROL

Ontario Follows Lead of Dominion Railway Board

Ontario's action in dispensing with the services of a Fuel Controller is consequent upon an Ottawa announcement to the effect that the Board of Railway Commissioners are ceasing fuel activities, "owing to the plentiful supplies of coal in the country and improvement of fuel conditions generally." Premier Drury made the explanation in the Ontario Legislature yesterday after Hon. G. H. Ferguson had questioned the wisdom of the proposed step.

During the last year, said Premier Drury, the activities of the Fuel Controller, H. A. Harrington, had not, in his opinion, justified the continuance of that office. Whereas the control of fuel supplies might have been perfectly justified and necessary in war time, he said, he did not look favorably upon the continuance through peace times of any kind of trade or business control.

Wellington Hay, Liberal member for North Perth, strongly endorsed the action of the Government in dispensing with fuel control. Business should be allowed to get back into pre-war channels as quickly as possible, he said, without Governmental hindrance. Furthermore, in his opinion, control of fuel supplies had resulted in increased cost of fuel to the consumers of the Province.

Hon. G. H. Ferguson, in bringing the matter before the House, said he hoped that the Government had not finally made up its mind to the elimination of fuel control. The Province, he thought, was not by any means out of the woods so far as fuel supplies were concerned.

UNMARRIED PARENTS

BILL IS "REPORTED"

ONLY A FEW MINOR AMEND-
MENTS MADE IN
WORDING

Business had precedence in the resumed deliberations of the Provincial Legislature yesterday and Government orders had right-of-way during practically the whole of the afternoon sitting.

The House went into committee for the second time upon Attorney-General Raney's bill for the protection of children of unmarried parents. Considerable discussion, chiefly of a purely legal character, centred upon several clauses, and the bill finally was reported with minor amendments in verbiage.

The following bills went through committee and were reported:

"Respecting Legitimization of Children by Subsequent Marriage of Parents—Hon. W. E. Raney; To Amend the Minimum Wage Act—Hon. Mr. Rollo; Respecting the Lake Huron & Northern Ontario Railway—Hon. Mr. Bowman; To Amend the Counties Reforestation Act—Hon. Mr. Bowman.

Hon. Mr. Smith Explains \$6,000,000 Bond Tender

Vigorous criticism was directed by H. H. Dewart, Liberal Leader, in the Legislature yesterday, against the action of the Provincial Treasurer in calling for tenders on another \$6,000,000 Province of Ontario ten-year 6 per cent. bond sale without having first taken the House into its confidence as to the purposes for which the money was required. Mr. Dewart pointed out that the advertise-

ment for tenders had appeared on the day following adjournment for Easter holidays.

In reply Hon. Peter Smith declared he had never heard of any precedent which called upon the Government to announce its intentions about going into the money markets. It might be, he said, that none of the tenders received as a result of the advertisement would be accepted. The money was required for Chippawa development purposes and for retirement of Treasury bills falling due April 15.