

MAY PROROGUE NEXT TUESDAY

Premier and Party Leaders
Agree Upon This
Arrangement

WILL CURTAIL DEBATE

By dropping a number of bills, and practically eliminating some of the debates still standing on the order paper, the Government hopes to wind up the business of the Legislature this Friday evening and prorogue on Tuesday next. Suggestions to this effect were concurred in by the two Opposition Leaders at a conference yesterday between Mr. H. H. Dewart, Hon. G. H. Ferguson and Premier Drury.

Leaders Will be Brief.

The Opposition Leaders, it is understood, have agreed to shorten materially remarks which it was intended to make on certain matters yet to come before the House, notably in the case of Hon. Mr. Ferguson in connection with the timber inquiry and Mr. McCrea's motion for a production of the Peter White, K.C., correspondence. Mr. Dewart will agree to cut down discussion on his motion regarding taxation of the nickel companies, and both Leaders, it is stated, will allow untouched matters of investigation in the Public Accounts Committee to stand over.

Workmen's Compensation Act.

Most important among the Government legislation which it is proposed to allow to stand over is the bill relating to proposed changes in the Workmen's Compensation Act. The measure which proposed to increase the board to five members is being dropped for the session, and an important provision in the general amending act, providing for the placing of the railways under part one of the act, requiring them to pay assessments into the general fund instead of meeting compensation claims individually, will stand over.

Other Government bills of lesser importance which will stand over for the session are those providing for the construction of township roads by special assessment, Hon. Mr. Nixon's Hospitals and Charitable Institutions Act, and the bill for the establishment of refuges for females.

the shares as above, a proper by-law, as I am advised, was passed, with the knowledge and approval of the then Government, providing for additional remuneration to myself, as President of the company, and proper by-laws for the payment of the other commissioners and officials of the company have since been duly passed. The effect of these payments by the Ontario Power Company is to place the burden of the payments and of the cost upon the municipalities that receive the service. I assume the Attorney-General does not object to this, and if he does not object to my being paid the salary there only remains the bare legal objection, upon which, as I have already stated, the lawyers differ.

"Under the present arrangement, and as the accounts are now charged, the Province contributes a total of only \$1,100 toward the salaries of the commissioners on account of the administration on the part of the commission of the Central Ontario System owned by the Province of Ontario, the balance being charged to operation and paid by the interested municipalities."

Availability of Records.

As to the statements of the Attorney-General with reference to the production of the minute books of the Ontario Power Company, Sir Adam Beck made the following six points:

"(1) On August 5, 1920, the Attorney-General wrote to the Secretary

of the company, asking that the minute books of the company be sent to him at the Parliament Buildings by the messenger delivering the above-mentioned letter.

"(2) The Secretary replied to the above letter, stating that he was unable to let the minute books out of the office without the authority of the Board of Directors, but that a meeting of the directors would be called at the earliest moment.

"(3) On August 11, 1920, the Board of Directors met, the communication of the Attorney-General was placed before them, and Col. Hon. D. Carmichael was requested to see the Attorney-General with respect to this matter.

"(4) On August 11 the Secretary of the company wrote a letter to the Attorney-General, advising of the result of the meeting of the Board of Directors, and that Col. Carmichael had been requested to call upon him.

Attorney-General Delays.

"(5) On August 13 the Secretary received a letter from the Deputy Attorney-General, acknowledging the company's letter of August 5, and stated that it was receiving attention.

"(6) On August 17 the Secretary communicated with the Attorney-General by telephone and advised him that he had been instructed by the directors to say that the minute books of the company could be taken up to his office, where he would have an opportunity to look them over and take extracts, and that the company were anxious to meet his wishes as far as possible. The Attorney-General stated that the matter could stand for the present, and he probably would communicate further about the middle or end of the week. The Secretary dictated a memo of the conversation for files immediately following the conversation."