

LAWYERS' DISPUTES WEARY STEVENSON

London Member Asks How Long Legislature is to Endure Them

R. L. Brackin, West Kent, and H. P. Hill, West Ottawa, had a sharp set-to in the Legislature yesterday; in which the phrase "political chameleon" was added to the phrases of political warfare.

Mr. Brackin, rising before the orders of the day were called, referred to certain statements made by Mr. Hill some days ago in the House reflecting upon the professional standing of R. T. Harding. Mr. Brackin said that it had been explained to the House that, in the arrangement in settlement between the Government and the lumber company, the company was to pay the cost of the Government counsel. The Government and the company knew and understood this, and it was in pursuance of such an arrangement that Mr. Harding had rendered his bill of \$500. Mr. Brackin contended that the House should get an explanation and a withdrawal from Mr. Hill.

Follows Rancy's Precedent.

"A few days ago," said the Ottawa member, "a gratuitous insult was hurled across the floor of the House against a friend of mine, Mr. Counsell, and against another friend of mine, Mr. Lalor. The day after, the Attorney-General was asked to withdraw the remarks, and he said the statement stood. It ill-becomes such a humble member as myself not to follow the precedent set by the Attorney-General. The political chameleon championing Mr. Harding might be better employed urging the Attorney-General to withdraw his statement rather than urging me to withdraw mine."

"His excuse is that the Attorney-General has not yet withdrawn his statement," said Mr. Brackin. "So far as that statement is concerned, I resent it and think it should be withdrawn."

Mr. Brackin said that it was the first time the Ottawa member had hidden behind the skirts of the Attorney-General.

Disputes Between Lawyers

Mr. Brackin said that Mr. Hill had made statements regarding Mr. Harding he knew to be untrue.

"I don't know it," said Mr. Hill. "The only party that knows all the facts is the Government, and a representative of the Government has said that your statement is not true," said Mr. Brackin. The fair and decent thing for Mr. Hill to do was to withdraw unreservedly his charge against Mr. Harding, he concluded.

"How long is this House going to be pestered with disputes between lawyers?" said Hugh Stevenson, London, and amid a roar of laughter from the members the incident closed.

MILK-DEALING CLAUSE KILLED

Toronto Will Not Get Auth- ority to Go Into the Business

BY-LAWS ARE APPROVED

The clause in the city of Toronto bill authorizing the city to go into the business of buying and storing milk and selling the same to dealers and residents of the municipality was thrown out yesterday by the Private Bills Committee of the Legislature. The vote was ten to eight. Of the Toronto members, Messrs. Crawford, Lewis and Ramsden voted in favor of retaining the clause, and Messrs. Curry and Thompson voted against the clause.

Another clause giving the Inspector of Buildings in Toronto the power to withhold the issue of a building permit upon any application for a permit relating to a property on a street residential in character until the council shall have decided whether such permit is to issue, was also defeated.

The committee approved the by-law relating to water mains carried last January by the ratepayers, and also permitted the expenditure of the following sums for the following purposes without submission of the same to the votes of the ratepayers: \$25,000 for an Observation Home; \$40,000 for a fire-hall in Ashbridge's Bay district; \$400,000 for a Reception Hospital, and \$200,000 for the site for a Police Administration Building.

The committee meets at 9 o'clock this morning to discuss matters pertaining to the employment of men out of work.

STREET WIDENING CLAUSE DEFEATED

The amendment to the Municipal Act fixing a future date for the widening of streets, and other changes, was defeated yesterday in the Legal Committee of the Legislature. The act, which was supported by J. B. O'Brian of the Civic Improvement Committee, gave municipal Councils the power to decide upon what streets should be widened, but permitted them to defer action from three to 15 years after such decision was made. It was apparently sponsored by town-planning advocates, and a bill along the same lines, drawn up to meet objections that came to light yesterday, will likely appear next session.

Toronto's bill, changing the limit of time in which those persons whose properties encroach upon municipal highways can get title, was defeated. Under the old act a highway was vested in the Crown, and a person whose property encroached did not get title to the portion his property encroached upon for 60 years, if his claim was undisturbed. Since 1913 highways vest in the municipality, and persons whose property now encroach get title in 10 years. The bill was to give the municipality the same right as the Crown in this respect.

The committee felt that the change was important, but that there were still two years before any person could get title, so the suggestion that the bill be laid over until next session was agreed to.

An act to amend the School Sites Act carried. Under the new provision any board of school trustees can carry out expropriation proceedings without delay, and in case of dispute a Judge will settle the account between the parties, the moneys being paid into court.