

O.T.A. AMENDMENT RUSHED THROUGH IN CLOSING HOURS

Defendants Allowed Right to Appeal From Conviction Upon the Record of the Magistrate Under Terms of Last-minute Legislation

WHAT LEGISLATURE DID THIS SESSION

Outstanding among all matters dealt with during the present session of the Ontario Legislature have been those appertaining to the amending of the Ontario Temperance Act. Many hours were devoted to the question of allowing appeal to a County Judge by defendants in B. O.T.A. cases, and finally the Attorney-General, although he himself admitted he was not enamored with the idea, brought down a bill which received its final reading last night, providing that defendants shall be allowed the right to appeal upon the record of the Magistrate.

Right to Search Extended.

The Ontario Temperance Act was also amended during the past session so that license inspectors and police constables now have the right to search boats. This was the direct outcome of the recent Spracklin case, in which the Methodist minister had to pay punitive damages for having boarded the "Kittiwake" in the Detroit River.

The Marriage License Act was amended so that in the future the sole issuers of licenses will be the municipal clerks. Permits to present issuers of marriage licenses will be automatically cancelled.

The Public Enquiries Act was amended so that in the future no probe can be held up by an interested party taking out an injunction.

Hon. Manning Doherty was successful in piloting through the Legislature three bills which provide for a rural credit system, both for short-term and long-term loans.

Hydro Legislation.

The Legislature ratified the agreements for the city of Toronto taking over the Toronto & Niagara Power Company, the T. E. L., and the Metropolitan division of the Toronto & York Radial Company within the city limits.

It further authorized the taking over by the Hydro-radial Commission of the Mimico, Scarboro' and Metropolitan divisions of the Toronto & York Radial Company outside of the city limits.

Timber controversies loomed largely in the discussion of the fourteen-week session, but there were no legislative developments in that connection.

Hydro as usual was the subject of extended debate, but up to an early hour this morning the Legislature had not reached any final conclusions on the vexed problem of assisting in extending power to rural districts.

Legislators Favor Veterans' Request

Premier Drury introduced a resolution into the Legislature yesterday that met with unanimous acceptance. It was an endorsement of the resolution of the veterans' organization in Toronto calling upon the Dominion Government to make provision to meet the unemployment situation by reinstating the D.S.C.R. relief, and placing on army pay and allowances all bona fide unemployed ex-service men until absorbed by the Government Employment Bureaus or otherwise.

The Prime Minister said men were suffering from a sense of injustice because, as they were the last to be taken on by employers, they were the first to be laid off.

W. H. Casselman, Dundas, said there was opportunity for hundreds of men on the farms of the Province. He had haunted the Unemployment Bureau on Front street, but the men seemed to entertain a reluctance to go out on farm work.

CITY WILL ASSUME COUNTY OBLIGATIONS

CLAUSE GIVING CLEAR TRANSFER OF METROPOLITAN IS WITHDRAWN

Clause five in the bill for Toronto to acquire the Metropolitan and other radial railways was withdrawn in Committee of the House yesterday by Hon. D. Carmichael. The clause vested the property and all franchises, rights and privileges of the Metropolitan division of the Toronto & York Radial Railway in the corporation of the city of Toronto free from all claims of any person or of any municipal or other corporation.

T. Herbert Lennox opposed the clause on behalf of York county. Hon. Thomas Crawford maintained the clause was of importance to the city of Toronto.

Mr. Lennox, in reviewing the attempt some time ago to acquire the Metropolitan by expropriation, said that the right of the county of York in its franchise was recognized by agreement to pay \$40,000. But those proceedings had fallen through.

The county of York had certain rights under its agreement with the Metropolitan, said Mr. Lennox. If the clause went through the freight coming into the city could be thrown off at Hogg's Hollow.

Major Lewis said that Toronto had no desire to interfere with farmers of York county to ship freight into the city, but it did not want a continuation of a radial line down Yonge street. It was agreed at the "clean-up" conference, he said, that the Toronto Railway Company would assume the obligations to York county for monetary damage. The clause was withdrawn.