

Legislature Deals Varying Fortune to Many Private Bills

BUDGET DEBATE RESUMES

After a desultory discussion the bill introduced by Charles Swayze, Niagara Falls, which virtually provided that all owners and drivers of motor cars should have licenses, was defeated last night in the Legislature. The Labor members present were favorable to the bill, and got some support from across the aisle, but the sentiment of the House was strongly against the adoption of the measure. Messrs. Rollo and Mills, of the Cabinet, voted for the bill, as opposed to other members of the Cabinet present, who voted against it.

Liberal Chief Opposed.

Wellington Hay, Liberal Leader, rather doubted the advisability of every member of a man's family having to take out a license, while H. H. Dewart, Southwest Toronto, favored, the bill.

J. W. Curry, Southeast Toronto, while favoring the license proposal, thought it would not be a hardship to say that before a person possessed a car he should have some knowledge of that which he undertook to handle.

Thomas Marshall, Lincoln, said the bill did not provide that drivers should be examined.

Hon. Howard Ferguson favored having owners pass an examination of some kind before licenses were issued to them. The Premier, on the other hand, held that novices in driving were usually careful. The Premier came in for some playful badinage from Opposition members over his famous bread wagon accident.

The Attorney-General, Hon. W. E. Raney, held that to require examination for all owners of cars before licenses were issued raised a large question, while Messrs. Mills, Rollo and Mageau thought that kind of law would eventually be placed on the statute books.

Expert Meets Difficulties.

Edgar Watson (North Victoria) held it was more often the expert driver than the beginner who became involved in accidents.

Second reading was given to Leslie Oke's bill to amend the Judicature Act. This bill provides that application may be made by parties to a suit for a jury trial in cases involving value of products of the farm, forest and mine. The Attorney-General indicated that in committee the bill would be amended in such manner as to conform to the English practice, in which the jury notice is not struck out unless the Judge is of the opinion that the action involves a question of law only, or requires prolonged examination of documents or accounts.

W. H. Casselman, U.F.O. member for Dundas, is not having fortune smile on many of his measures, and his bill to amend the Mothers' Allowances Act so that the municipality, not the county, should bear the expense, was defeated last night.

most of the members speaking against it. Both Messrs. Dewart and Ferguson suggested that the Province assume the whole burden of these allowances.

Winter Road Work.

Second reading was given to the bill of G. H. Murdock (Centre Simcoe) to repeal a clause which prevents a municipality putting stone, gravel or other material on roads during the winter months.

Mr. Swayze's bill to give municipalities the right to establish safety zones on streets or highways was carried. Mr. Swayze said it had been asked for by the Ontario Safety League. Mr. Dewart suggested that it be limited in its application to cities.

G. W. Ecclestone (Muskoka) secured second reading for his bill to enable townships in unorganized territories to license peddlers and hawkers.

Following the passage of this miscellany of legal measures, the House reverted to the Budget debate, and R. R. Hall (Parry Sound) resumed his speech. Mr. Dewart thought it was not fair to call on the member so late in the evening, but the Premier decided to go on. Mr. Hall went into the public accounts exhaustively and was particularly anxious to secure details of the travelling expenses of Ministers.

Edgar Watson (North Victoria) moved the adjournment of the debate and will resume the discussion for the Government forces.

Legislative Committee Approves Important Change in Assessment Act

MAKES PARTNERS PAY

The bill to provide free text-books in public, high and industrial schools, introduced in the Legislature by R. L. Brackin, K.C., West Kent, was defeated by the Municipal Committee of the Legislature yesterday by a vote of 22 to 14.

The vote showed that rural members were not in favor of a measure of this kind. The debate before the vote was taken was short, and when it was taken it was revealed that practically all the rural members present were against the proposal. S. S. Staples, East Durham, was one U.F.O. member who voted for the bill, and all the Labor members present were in favor of it. Two Toronto members, J. C. Ramsden and J. W. Curry, voted against the bill.

Doherty's Bill Approved.

The Agricultural Committee approved Hon. Manning Doherty's bill to aid in the packing and grading of fruit by grants to co-operatively owned warehouses not exceeding 25 per cent. of the value. Objection was taken to the bill by R. R. Hall, Parry Sound, and J. W. McLeod, Stormont.

Mr. Hall thought it was entirely wrong "that these associations, with their affluence about them, should ask laborers, all of us, to construct warehouses for them and have no share in the ownership of the buildings."

Mr. McLeod said the bill instituted "the vicious principle of bonusing industries."

The Municipal Committee approved a clause in the bill of A. C. Lewis, Northeast Toronto, which makes an important change in the Assessment Act. By this clause after the business assessment of partners is struck the partnership is assessed for the amount by which the profit of the business exceeds the business assessment.

Serious Opposition.

The clause did not pass without some opposition and an hour's discussion. It was argued against the idea that a partnership would be liable for business assessment, and then an additional burden would be placed upon it as soon as the partnership made money over and above the amount required for business assessment. Mr. Forman, Assessment Commissioner of Toronto, told Mr. W. F. Nickle, Kingston, that the good thing about business assessment was its constancy.

It was pointed out in favor of the change that some partnerships had income much in excess of the business assessment. This was so in the case of brokers, etc., who often did a large business in small office space.