

NORTHERN MEN OBJECT TO BILL ON ENGINEERS

Fear Millwrights Will Not Be Able to Build in Woods

"CLOSE CORPORATION"?

After a discussion in the Committee of the Whole House which lasted nearly all the afternoon, the Legislature yesterday decided to send back, for further consideration by a special committee, the act introduced by A. W. Gray, Conservative member for Leeds, respecting professional engineers.

The act incorporates the Association of Professional Engineers of the Province of Ontario, and the salient feature of the bill is Section 34, which provides that any person, not being registered as a member of the association, cannot practice as a professional engineer, nor usurp the function of a professional engineer. This part of the bill did not meet with the approval of the Attorney-General. He said he thought the engineers should be content this session with an act that provided a penalty for a person practicing as a registered engineer when he was not in fact a registered engineer. He was not so sure that power should be given at this stage to prohibit a person from following the profession at all because he was not registered in the association.

Copy New Brunswick.

Hon. Howard Ferguson, Conservative Leader, said he did not think there was any use in setting up a standard for engineers if a man could go ahead and follow the profession as he pleased. Mr. Ferguson suggested that the penalty clauses for practicing, as now incorporated in the New Brunswick bill, be placed in the Ontario bill, instead of the ones now there. He moved an amendment to this effect, but later withdrew it when it seemed to be the wish of the House that the special committee that had considered the bill should consider it again, hearing the representations of engineers, and their arguments against the objections to the bill revealed by the discussion yesterday in the House.

Another clause that brought objections was one providing exceptions to which the act did not apply. These, briefly, are: on any mining work; works, plants and appliances constructed on private property by the owner for the sole use and benefit of the owner and his domestic establishment; construction on property on other than a man's private property to a value not exceeding \$5,000, and in construction of township roads. Under this act a registered engineer would not, by law, be required to be employed on such work.

Northern Men Object.

Members from the North spoke strongly concerning these exceptions. Z. Mageau, Liberal member for Sturgeon Falls, was particularly active in his opposition. He held that this would prohibit the employment of millwrights in the building of saw-mills and planing mills, etc., thus working a hardship. There was also apprehension among many members that, notwithstanding the exceptions in the act, "practical" engineers, who had had several years' experience, but who did not wish to register in the association, would be debarred from their calling.

Some U. F. O. members scented the creation of another "close corporation" in the bill, and were frankly skeptical that it in any way safeguarded the interests of the public.

Moreover, there was no party bias in the discussion, as arguments pro and con were presented by members of all the groups.

The bill covers five classes of engineers—civil, mechanical, chemical, electrical and mining.

Must Submit Proof.

The bill sets forth that any person residing in Ontario at the date of the passing of the act, who has been engaged in engineering for five years or more, shall be entitled to registration with the association without examination, provided that he produces proof within one year of the

passage of the act of following such occupation.

The penalties provide that any person, not being registered as a member of the association, or licensed by the association, who (a) practices as a professional engineer; (b) usurps the functions of a professional engineer; (c) uses a title or anything that will lead to the belief that he is a professional engineer; (d) advertises himself as a professional engineer; (e) acts in such a manner as to lead to the belief that he is authorized to fill the office or to act as a professional engineer—will be liable to a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$200 for the first offense, and to a fine of not less than \$200 nor more than \$500 for any subsequent offense.

Sub-sections (a) and (b) were the ones that met objection from the Attorney-General. He was prepared to let the other sections pass.

"SLAVIN CLAIMS CAN GET MONEY FROM AYEARST"

Chief Inspector's Name Is Brought Into Investigation by McCutcheon

TELLS OF ONE "FRAME-UP"

For another two and a half hours yesterday the Public Accounts Committee of the Ontario Legislature listened to details of Ontario Temperance Act administration as supplied by H. H. McCutcheon, former operator in the department, now serving a jail sentence for conspiracy. At yesterday's session the witness brought the name of Rev. J. A. Ayearst, Chief License Inspector, prominently forward, claiming Mr. Ayearst had given character evidence for a several times convicted bootlegger, who now boasted that he could get money from Mr. Ayearst's office any time he wanted it.

Probe Ayearst's Orders.

McCutcheon told also of a peculiar order he had received from Captain Collinson of the department. "I was told," he said, "to investigate orders sent by Mr. Ayearst to have carloads of liquor moved up the track. I was told to find out what I could about certain orders given by Mr. Ayearst to have carloads of liquor moved up the track—whether to be hitched on to another train or unloaded, I do not know, but that was the information I received to work on."

Q.—Who gave that order?

A.—Capt. Collinson, in the presence of General Elliott.

His other reference to Mr. Ayearst was a statement that the Chief License Inspector had given character evidence for a man named Slavin after he had been convicted six or seven times for selling liquor, and the Chief Inspector himself had seized 60 or 70 gallons out of his garage. "But he still gave character evidence for him," said McCutcheon. "He said he was a decent man."