

When the vote came only a few members supported the measure, including Hon. Harry Mills, Minister of Mines. Hon. W. E. Raney approved the idea in the bill, but thought it best to leave the matter with the department, with the expectation of some general measure next session.

Mr. Raney's bill to unite the registry offices of Toronto and York was withdrawn, and the bill referred to a special committee consisting of the Toronto and York members, to sit during the recess.

The bill to incorporate an Association of Engineers was referred again to the special committee, but it seems settled that the bill will not provide penalties for persons who do not belong to the association carrying on the business of an engineer. Penalties are provided for those who hold out that they are members of the association when they are not members.

The Attorney-General's "Blue Sky" law was also referred to a special committee that will consider it during the recess. The personnel of the committee will be announced later.

With the exception of one amendment to the Workmen's Compensation Act that may be introduced this session, Government bills yet to be introduced consist of the following measures: Lake of the Woods control, by Mr. Drury; amendment to the Rural Hydro Distribution Act, by Col. Carmichael; amendment to the Public Health Act, by Hon. Walter Rollo; Assessment Amendment Act, by Hon. H. C. Nixon.

Government members said yesterday they had no statement to make at this time concerning the terms of these various bills.

## THREESCORE AND TEN CIVIL SERVANTS' LIMIT

According to the terms of amendments to the Ontario Public Service Superannuation Act of 1920, introduced yesterday into the Legislature by Premier Drury, civil servants are to retire from the service at the age of 70. The Premier explained that the amendments were recommended by the Superannuation Board, and the changes were chiefly of a minor nature.

It is learned that the new amendment will result in the retirement almost immediately of some 45 or 50 of the older employees of the Government in the service, and these men will practically all be among the higher-paid class. A large number of promotions are looked for to follow the retirement of these men.

By an amendment to the Workmen's Compensation Act, introduced by Hon. Walter Rollo, in case of the death of the widow of a man killed in an industrial accident, the person looking after the children will be entitled to \$15 for each child under the age limit set out by the act, instead of receiving \$10 for each child, as is the case at present.

Another amendment, applying to railway workers, provides that where a railway employee, a citizen of Canada, who by reason of promotion is transferred to headquarters in the United States, but whose "run" is in Canada, and is injured or killed in Canada, the award is to be under the Ontario Board, and not under the State Board as is the case at present, when the State Board's award is lower than that in Ontario.

## Raise Limit On Speed of Autos

H. A. Stevenson, Labor member for London, introduced in the Legislature yesterday an amendment to the Motor Vehicles Act which, if passed, would increase the speed limit in the country to 30 miles an hour.

It would also permit the use of parking lights on the rear left fender of an automobile, and make inoperative the penalty clause relating to failure to slow down to 12 miles an hour at intersections. It would also give Municipal Councils the right to close parks to motor cars.

# TAKE EVIDENCE FROM CONVICTS

## Public Accounts Committee Will Hear Men From Prisons

### OPERATORS MUST DRINK?

Again at the Public Accounts Committee meeting yesterday did the heated exchanges between the Attorney-General, T. H. Lennox, K.C., J. W. Curry, K.C., and others, outstrip in interest the evidence brought out. Hon. Mr. Raney once more accused Mr. Lennox of wasting the time of the committee with irrelevant evidence, and remarked on one occasion that Mr. Lennox was simply "beating the air." Mr. Lennox's retort was for the Attorney-General to please keep quiet and let him complete his examination. J. W. Curry, K.C., after a tiff with Mr. Lennox, left the committee room.

#### Take Prisoners' Evidence.

At the close of the meeting the committee members engaged in animated discussion as to whether they would bring witnesses from the Jail and from Kingston Penitentiary. Chairman Edgar Watson asked for the opinion of the committee on the point, whereupon Mr. Lennox pointed out that the resolution was already passed. When the Attorney-General remarked that when the committee had the addresses of the men wanted it would decide, adding that if they were in Kingston "we can't bring them here." W. F. Nickle, K.C., objected to such a "smoke screen." It was easy, he said, to get witnesses from prison or jail to give evidence at any hearing.

Later on Mr. Lennox declared he was not afraid of the hearings being "stifled," because "men of other politics than mine are quite fixed in their determination to see this inquiry go on to the end. I propose to call all the witnesses that are necessary. I'll tell you why. The Attorney-General is not only very clever—he is foxy. If I did not produce all these witnesses he would get up in the House and ask why I had not demanded that such and such a witness be summoned."

#### Prison Gates Will Yawn.

On motion of Mr. Nickle, however, the committee decided to bring any necessary witnesses from jail.

Most of the time of the committee yesterday was occupied with the examination of Inspector A. A. Montgomery. The men under him, he said, absolutely were not "thugs," and he did not keep any men whom he knew to have criminal records. Montgomery said that he knew nothing personally against former Operator Courrian, of whom much has been said at the committee. Courrian he knew on one occasion to have been under the influence of liquor, but he did not consider that detrimental to the public interest. His experience showed that decent, respectable men could enforce the O.T.A. It was not necessary to employ criminals.

#### Operators Have to Drink.

Much was heard concerning an operator named Robinson who had been retained in the department for three weeks after being fined, but witness said he did not know whether he had given evidence against anybody in the interval. He could not recall one man being dismissed because of unfitness.

In conclusion the inspector said that it was necessary for spotters and operators to drink in order to get convictions. Mr. Nickle asked: "To enforce this law in this way you cannot get men of good practise and character?" Witness assented.

Mr. Watson—And the only way you can catch the bootleggers is by the use of these shady methods? Yes.

Although the committee discussed seriously a proposal to sit on Saturday and on May 24, final adjournment was made until 9.30 a.m. Tuesday next.