

## W. F. Nickle Asks About Roman Catholics' School Complaints

### QUESTION FOR COURTS

During discussion of the school estimates in the Legislature last night W. F. Nickle, Conservative member for Kingston, brought to the attention of the Minister of Education the pamphlet issued recently by Bishop Fallon of London, regarding the alleged injustice of Roman Catholic representation on Boards of Education. Mr. Nickle said this pamphlet set forth that, in an interview, the Attorney-General had said it was a rank injustice, that this practice should be continued. Mr. Nickle wanted to know if the Minister had any light to shed on what steps the Government proposed to take to remove this alleged injustice.

#### Raney Denies Statement.

Hon. R. H. Grant replied that he was present at the interview in question. "The Attorney-General has denied making the statement, and I was present and did not hear him make the statement," said the Minister. He went on to say that the Government had given "no consideration yet in reference to what should be done in connection with the trouble that has arisen between representatives on High School Boards, and I do not know whether or not anything can be considered at this session, and whether any changes can be made."

Mr. Grant said he did not know whether Bishop Fallon, in reference to this matter, expressed the opinion of his own people or not.

Coming to the question again, Mr. Nickle said that if a satisfactory working out of the general high school system must be achieved it appeared to be advisable that every effort should be made to secure the hearty co-operation of those who did not profess to be Protestants, and if Bishop Fallon expressed correctly the feeling of his people, it would not seem amiss that some effort should be made to allay any irritation, so that a Province-wide feeling of good fellowship might be obtained.

#### Might Improve Conditions.

"I therefore urge upon the Minister that the Government give some attention to the problem. If there is hardship in Bishop Fallon's district, some attention might be given to it in an effort to improve conditions."

Mr. Grant replied that this was one of the questions he expected would be dealt with before another session of the Legislature. The representatives of the separate schools had made certain claims before the Government, and the Government had announced what it was prepared to do; it considered it a case for the courts to interpret. Perhaps when the courts had considered and dealt with the question the Government might be prepared to consider the problem.

### MAKING MUCH PEAT.

That the Government expects to obtain 7,500 tons of peat from the Provincial peat experimenting plant this year, and hopes that the amount will reach 10,000 tons, was the statement of Hon. Harry Mills, Minister of Mines, in the course of discussion on the estimates in the House at an early hour this morning.

## Province Takes Over Bruce Mines Railway, Says Premier

### REPORT BEING MADE

Premier Drury told the Legislature yesterday that the Timiskaming & Northern Ontario Railway Commission had been instructed to make a report, not only on the present system of the North Shore & Lake Huron Railway (the Bruce Mines line), but also on the feasibility of extending it northward.

The question was brought up by an inquiry on the part of Hon. G. Howard Ferguson, and Mr. Drury said the Government had taken the initial steps by refusing to renew the charter of the old railway. The policy, he said, was to take over the present 17 miles and serve the local needs, and go on with extensions as it should appear opportune, and when the report of the T. & N.O. Commission was received.

The line led up toward valuable hardwood properties, the Premier explained. There was an abundance of water power and many sites for mills. The development of the whole area reached by the railway as at present constituted, and as it might be projected, was in contemplation, the Premier said.

The charter for the railway was granted originally many years ago, and only recently the time was extended, but the Premier's announcement indicates the charter will not be renewed. Mr. Ferguson said that he had looked over the ground during the time of the former Government, with a view to a comprehensive development, and asked if the Government had that in mind. The Premier said all that could be done at present was to take over the present line, and await the report of the T. & N.O. Commission regarding extension.

Regarding an extension of the T. & N.O. into Quebec around Timiskaming, the Premier said it would not pay unless the road got the haulage of lumber from Quebec side of the border. Extension merely to the border of Quebec would not pay, in the opinion of the T. & N.O. Commission.

## Premier Introduces Revamped Measure on Question of Levels

Premier Drury's Lake of the Wood Levels Bill, which occasioned so much discussion at the last session of the Legislature, is again to be the subject for debate at this session. The Premier introduced a bill yesterday, which he said was similar to that of last year, but was dependent for enactment upon certain conditions relating to the Federal field.

Peter Heenan, Labor member for Kenora, a Government supporter, immediately asked the Premier that time be given for the northwest section of the Province to make its representations in regard to the measure, and was not satisfied with the Premier's cursory declaration that the Government was always glad to hear representations from any section. Mr. Heenan pressed the case for the head of the lakes, pointing out that it would be too late after a second reading. Thereupon the Premier said it would be all right for him to telegraph the head of the lakes and arrange for a conference.