

LANDS OF STEEL COMPANY MAY BE HELD ILLEGALLY

Provincial Secretary H. C. Nixon Makes Statement in House, and Declares He Is Conducting Further Investigation

There is strong possibility that lands held in Ontario by the L. R. Steel, Inc., are held illegally, according to a statement in the Legislature last night by Hon. H. C. Nixon, Provincial Secretary, when he made his promised statement.

"We have no file on this company at all," said Hon. Mr. Nixon, referring to the holding company. "They have not taken out the license in mortmain to hold lands in Ontario, and therefore if they are holding lands they are holding them illegally."

Careful search of the files, Mr. Nixon said, showed that on the last return of the Steel concern the real

estate holdings, amounting to several hundred thousand dollars, were held by the L. R. Steel Company under agreement for sale to the Steel Realty Development Corporation, Limited, which was the only note of reference in the file to the Realty Development Corporation.

"As I understood when the company went into liquidation," he said, "they were the company that was holding the real estate of this concern. If they were carrying on in that way we claim that they were carrying on illegally, as, according to the Privy Council decision, such a company to hold land in Ontario must have a license in mortmain to do so. I am looking into the matter further from that direction."

CITY OF YORK BILL PASSES COMMITTEE

Incorporation of Mount Dennis and Humbervale Is Favored

HOUSE NOW TO DECIDE

Pro-incorporationists in York township won the first round of the fight to secure legislative sanction for the breaking up of York township and the creation of urban municipalities, when the Private Bills Committee of the Legislature, yesterday morning, approved of the bills to incorporate the City of York, the town of Mount Dennis and the town of Humbervale.

The Mount Dennis incorporation received the support of the committee on a vote of 14 to 11; that of York City by 14 to 4. The opposition in both cases was led by Toronto members. As the roll-call vote in the first instance more or less represented the respective strength of the two factions on the committee, it is more than likely that yesterday's struggle will be repeated when the bills are reported in the House.

During the committee's hearing of the arguments of those for and against the proposed incorporations the committee room was crowded with representatives of the two opposing camps.

The following was the line-up of members on the Mount Dennis bill:

For—Bragg, Brown, Cunningham, Denyes, Halcrow, Leeson, Lethbridge, McArthur, Pinard, Stevenson, Walker, Warren, Swayze, Webster—14.

Against—Asmussen, Black, Buckland, Crawford, Currie, Montgomery, Ramsden, Ross (Glengarry), Staples, Stringer, Thompson—11.

On motion of J. A. Pinard (Liberal, East Ottawa), it was decided that the vote on incorporation be not restricted to ratepayers qualified to vote on money by-laws, but include all electors.

There was no vote on the Humbervale incorporation, it being conceded that if the other two projects went through, Humbervale would have to look out for itself, as it then would be isolated from the remaining portions of York township.

SINCLAIR DECLARES HE REMAINS TRUE TO LIBERAL PARTY

Calls on Premier Drury to Declare Himself on Rumored Amalgamation

STANDS BY CONVENTION

Protesting against reference to himself in an evening newspaper as a "Druryite," W. E. N. Sinclair, Liberal member for South Ontario, renewed discussions in the Legislature yesterday upon the great Provincial mystery—the rumored U.F.O.-Liberal alliance. Mr. Sinclair, observing that the "Druryite" appellation was one which he could not afford to allow to pass unchallenged, affirmed his adherence to Liberal principles and the Liberal party's convention resolution, which laid down a clear-cut path for exponents of Liberalism to tread.

"If there are those in the Liberal group," said Mr. Sinclair, "who wish to join any other political organization, I have no objection, and I think it is high time now that there should be a declaration from Liberal members as to whether they propose to carry out this first plank in the Liberal platform of the 1922 convention or whether they propose some other alliance. I may say that if there are any who wish to depart, it is a good time to go, and that the Liberal party will still carry on.

Calls for Declaration.

"I am not going to attempt to direct the coming or going of the Prime Minister. Whether he is looking for another place or not I don't know, but I do submit that it is time he made a declaration also as to where he stands politically and as to what his political aspirations may be.

H. S. Cooper, Liberal member for Northwest Toronto, who has frequently brought the same subject to the attention of the House, read further from the same article complained of by Mr. Sinclair and observed that the further statement that one or two Liberals would rather go Conservative than follow a hyphenated party was absolutely untrue as far as he was concerned.

Opposed to "Hyphenation."

"I was born a Liberal," he said, "and I have been brought up in a Liberal camp, and I intend to remain, as far as I can see, a Liberal. The rest of the article, stating that I will not stand for any hyphenation, is quite true."

A. P. Mewhinney, Liberal member for West Bruce, observed that, as the time for testimony apparently had come, he felt it incumbent upon himself to say a word. He had always believed in Liberalism, he said, and believed more strongly in it today than ever before. It was his intention to remain a Liberal.

Premier Drury, in humorous vein, extended his "heartiest and sincerest thanks" to the Liberal members who had disclaimed any intention of sitting under his leadership.