

calculated to elevate the standard of hotel accommodation throughout the Province.

Clause Left Over.

Among the clauses to stand over was that to which Mr. Dewart took such violent objection the night previous—the clause to give protection to informants and complainants. W. F. Nickle, K.C., suggested an amendment which would obviate some of the words deemed undesirable, but Mr. Ferguson pressed for a complete redrafting. The Attorney-General finally consented to lay that clause over.

As explained by Mr. Raney, the measure is introduced in skeleton form, without details of any kind. Commissioners are to be nominated by the Commercial Travellers' Association, the Hotelkeepers' Association and the Motor League. The intent of the bill would be to have the hotel licenses under the control of the commission, which would practically oversee the business of hotel-keeping along the lines of the Watson Committee's report.

The biggest idea behind the whole scheme of hotel improvement is the capitalization of Ontario's summer playgrounds.

BILLS BEFORE HOUSE DIE VARIOUS DEATHS

Proposed Anti-combines Legislation Goes Into Discard

REGISTRY OFFICE BILL, TOO

Among the contentious items of legislation which are being thrown overboard by the Government in the effort to dissolve by May 4 is the Anti-Combines Bill, which has been the subject of House and committee consideration for two sessions. Two other measures whose demise has been officially announced are those respecting boring of wells and Attorney-General Raney's bill to simplify search of land titles. Others, it is understood, are to follow.

Still another measure to go into the discard was that of Attorney-General Raney to amalgamate the county of York and city of Toronto Registry Offices. Whereas the other bills succumbed in the peace and calm of a House Leaders' conference, the amalgamation bill died a more violent death before the Legal Committee, where, following vigorous opposition yesterday morning, it was withdrawn.

County Councillors opposing the bill were supported in their protest against amalgamation by T. H. Lennox, K.C., and H. H. Dewart, K.C., both of whom submitted that the measure was in the nature of compelling the county authorities to enter conditions which they did not desire.

The OBSERVER IN QUEEN'S PARK



For about ten minutes yesterday it looked as though the Legislature had a chance to finish up business by the middle of next week. The three party Leaders met in a quiet conference, when it was agreed that several measures would be dropped. On the memorandum discussed by the Leaders was Mr. Raney's blue sky bill, and a question mark was placed after it. Then the three Leaders went into the House.

Immediately a row started as to what had been agreed upon at the conference. The same thing has often happened before. In fact, it is doubtful if these three Leaders have had a conference this session about which they did not differ afterward as to what had been arranged. It is a delicate problem to make any judgment as to who is to blame for these misunderstandings.

Committee in an Uproar.

Yesterday the question mark was put after the blue sky measure, and soon afterward Mr. Raney had it into committee. The committee got into an uproar, and Premier Drury explained that the question mark had been put after the blue sky bill in order that he might consult his followers.

A little later Mr. Raney made known the Government's decision by stating: "We will not withdraw this bill unless we are compelled to do so through obstruction." Some people said what did develop was nothing more or less than obstruction, but it must be admitted the argument was kept to the bill, even though a lot of verbosity was indulged in. Mr. Raney showed impatience at Messrs. Dewart, Ferguson and Price, and the progress was painfully slow. The Oppositionists at times had a tendency to discuss the principle of the whole measure, instead of keeping to the particular clause under review.

"These criticisms are addressed to the very substance of the bill," explained the Attorney-General. By 6 o'clock only eight sections had been passed out of the 28, and the speed was not much greater at the night session.

Made Some Compromises.

Mr. Raney was in more or less of a compromising mood. He dropped a clause here and a clause there, and words at various intervals, to get the measure ahead, evidently taking the view that some sort of blue sky legislation was better than none at all. However, Mr. Raney knows pretty well that the Conservatives do not want to be branded with any more obstruction tactics, because many voters will take unkindly to those methods of playing politics.

Is the Feud to End?

Among the interesting rumors yesterday was one regarding the Drury-Morrison feud. It was stated that statements would be issued shortly by both sides to this quarrel which would clear the air to some extent. Nobody appeared to know much about the matter, though many guesses were heard to the effect that common ground had been found by the rival U.F.O. leaders, and that some compromise would shortly be arranged which would last at least until after the election. Weight was given this

latter assumption by a statement from a man close to the Government that at least ten or a dozen of the present Administration followers would fail to regain their party nominations.

Fight Every Riding.

There is a noticeable stiffening of the Liberal attitude toward opposition to Government members, even though such opposition might give advantage, in isolated cases, to the Conservatives in three-cornered contests. Most Liberals are beginning to see as a party that if faced with three-cornered contests they have much to gain by entering candidates, and practically nothing to lose. It has been bitterly learned election experience that once a riding goes by default the party machinery and organization becomes so dislocated that it is impossible to repair it for years to come. More than that, as a question of practical politics, Liberals do not like the idea of "saw-offs," that is, an agreement not to run a candidate in a certain riding provided one of the Government party does not run in another riding. In discussing saw-offs, some of the party workers claim it is poor tactics to enter any arrangement with the U.F.O., because the latter have no centralized control, and any agreements entered into can readily be broken.

Liberal in Halton.

As a matter of fact, the most active Liberal enthusiasts have discarded all saw-off ideas, and all efforts are now being directed toward placing a Liberal candidate in every riding. In this connection it was announced yesterday that a Liberal would run against Premier Drury in Halton, a convention having been called for that riding next week, at which Thomas Marshall, the Liberal Whip, will be the chief speaker.

One in Peel Also?

It was also stated last night that in all probability a Liberal candidate would run in Peel, where a convention last Saturday decided against such action. In Peel, according to reports reaching Queen's Park, there are many Liberals who are deeply disappointed at last Saturday's fiasco, and have so expressed themselves. The stand of J. Walter Curry, K.C., in acquiescing in the idea of letting the U.F.O. and Conservative fight it out alone in Peel is still the subject of much adverse comment in Liberal circles. It was pointed out that Mr. Curry acted on his own responsibility entirely. More will be heard of the Peel county incident before many days.

The movement for a New Ontario party, of which rumors have appeared during the last few days, is said to have resulted from several disappointed local politicians in the North, encouraged by some Conservatives. Liberals from New Ontario claim they will win Sudbury, where the majority of Charles McCrea (Conservative) at the last election was only 142. Rainy River is another New Ontario seat which the Conservatives may lose. The present member is J. A. Mathieu, and his majority was 352. Since last election Mr. Mathieu has figured prominently in the Shevlin-Clarke timber probe, and it is said his re-election is impossible.