

HYDRO COMMISSION TO SIT IN CAMERA AFTER HOUSE RISES

Chiropractors Must Pass New Examinations Before They Practice

CASSELMAN DROPS BILLS

Premier Drury announced to the Legislature yesterday that no reports of the Hydro-electric Inquiry Commission are to be presented or made public after the House rises and no further public sittings of the commission are to be held after the dissolution of the House.

The announcement came as a result of a question asked by Hon. G. Howard Ferguson, Conservative Leader. The Premier said he had made arrangements with the Chairman that no reports were to be made public after the House rose. After dissolution all the investigations would be carried on in camera, so that no political capital could be made out of them. Mr. Ferguson signified his acquiescence in the arrangement.

Doctors Must Be Doctors.

The House in committee approved the Ontario Medical Act, the Premier saying that students at present in schools studying for chiropractors and the like would probably have to pass an examination prescribed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council. The Premier said he was told inferior institutions rushed men through, and men were graduated so as to be practicing before this bill came into effect.

W. H. Casselman, Dundas, withdrew his bill to amend the Adolescent School Attendance Act, and also his notice of motion regarding Government action on the fuel situation. The Premier announced that Friday would be reserved for private members' business.

The OBSERVER IN QUEEN'S PA

There was no session of the House last night, though perhaps, had business continued, everything could have been finished. As it was, the Government members held a banquet downtown, as a sort of preliminary accelerator of enthusiasm for the campaign. Of course, wags on the Opposition benches said it was another "last night party," but no scandal will ever be attached to last night's proceedings.

The Government forces are badly in need of encouragement and a few kindly words. It is many years since any party in power has been forced to stand the grilling accorded the U.F.O.-Labor alliance during the past few weeks. Stabbed in the back by their trusted friends, attacked in front by experienced and skilled politicians, forced to withdraw legislation, their Leader abandoning his most precious policy, it is no wonder this Government party sought the comparatively quiet refuge of the banquet hall for one evening before prorogation and dissolution.

Everybody expects the legislative duties of the members will be concluded today, and this evening there will be a general exodus to renew acquaintance with the voters. Much of today's session, it is planned, will be given to private members to air their pet grievances or set themselves right before the public.

No Gregory Propaganda.

One possible source of election

propaganda has been effectually silenced. Following the arguments of Leaders Hay and Ferguson on Wednesday, the Premier yesterday announced that he had made arrangements that the Gregory Hydro Inquiry Commission would issue no reports after the House rises. The work of the commission will not cease, but between the date of dissolution and the election all inquiries will be held in camera.

As yet the date of the election has not been definitely announced. June 25 is the generally accepted date, but an earlier day may be chosen, as only 41 days must elapse between the dissolution date and the date of polling. It was stated that the Premier originally had selected June 13 as the election date, remarking that thirteen had always been his lucky number. However, the 13th had an ominous sound to many U.F.O. members, so that proposal was dropped. Then they thought June 18 would be a good day, but someone found out that June 18 was Howard Ferguson's birthday. None in the Government ranks would give Hon. Howard a chance like that. Besides, June 18 was the date on which a great autocrat fell from power more than a century ago. And so there was general agreement on June 25, which comes before the haying, and well after the heavy spring work on the farms. Practically all the members would welcome the contest at the earliest possible moment, because, of the hundred-odd M.P.P.'s who are going to run again, every one of them thinks he will return a victor.

Getting Liberal Candidates.

So far the Liberals have their election preliminaries farther advanced than any of the other parties. Nineteen Liberal candidates have now been nominated, and 63 conventions have been arranged for. From such activity it may be judged that the Liberal determination expressed at the gatherings in Toronto last week to run a candidate in every riding was no idle boast. Reports so far received from Liberal conventions are quite encouraging, in that many men who went U.F.O. last election are now returning to the Liberal fold.

It has been freely rumored that Attorney-General Raney would retire to a Government post. In the House yesterday Mr. Dewar conducted quite a lengthy cross-examination in order to find out whom this Government would appoint to several excellent positions now vacant. The point under discussion at the time was the office of Public Trustee. Mr. Raney said he would give one pledge: "The present Attorney-General will not accept this office of Public Trustee or any other office in the gift of this Government." That rumor seems disposed of, and the Province may expect to hear the Attorney-General handing hard knocks to the Conservatives on the hustings. Another rumor as promptly denied concerned W. E. N. Sinclair, the Liberal member for South Ontario. It was stated that he was to be made a County Judge. Mr. Sinclair himself said he was going to be Liberal candidate in South Ontario.

Near-riot Among Conservatives.

When in Committee of Supply the House got into another jangle yesterday, with Col. J. A. Currie as the centrepiece. Z. Mageau (Liberal, Sturgeon Falls) and Col. Currie had a wordy battle over respective war records, which brought in Hon. Mr. Raney with something about "tin soldiering." Major Lewis also declined for a while to submit himself to the Chairman's ruling—all of which was highly entertaining for the galleries, and put a temporary brake on the progress of the estimates. All along Col. Currie has constituted himself a sort of party leader in asking questions about the estimates, and the rest of the House is becoming rather tired of his comparative monopoly of talk. When the row was at its height Mr. Ferguson was hurriedly summoned into the House.

He said such unseemly controversies always arose when Hon. Mr. Raney was leading the House, but it was obvious to those who were present that the Conservative Leader was trying to curb a near-riot in his own ranks. At the time the Government members were beginning to accuse the Conservatives of blocking tactics, and the accusation of obstruction is the last thing Mr. Ferguson wants to hear just now. As has been stated previously, he has had quite enough of obstruction for one session. He had given his personal promise to expedite business, had added that the men behind him would do the

same, and he did not care to have that promise challenged. The incident was only another clear indication that the Conservative membership is far from being a happy, united family.

Mr. Ferguson's Liquor Policy.

An article in yesterday's Christian Guardian, the official organ of the Methodist Church, is going to cause considerable amount of comment in this campaign. The article says:

"Mr. Ferguson, if he does sympathize with the present prohibitory law, has been very successful in hiding that sympathy, and he has been repeatedly upon party platforms when prominent members of his own party declared their dislike of the O.T.A. and its enforcement, and he has never once rebuked them, so far as we know, nor even dared to differ with them on this matter. It is true that Mr. Ferguson promised to enunciate a policy upon this matter, but he has thus far failed to do so, and, rightly or wrongly, the impression has been created upon the public that the Leader of the Conservative party in Ontario is not in sympathy either with the O.T.A. or its enforcement.

"If this impression is incorrect, we shall be only too delighted to correct it, but until there is some definite lead given to the contrary the temperance Conservatives of Ontario cannot but hesitate to vote for the present Leader, and any Conservative candidate will need to make his prohibitory views very, very clear before he can expect prohibition Conservatives to vote for him.

"There is no blinking the fact that the Hon. G. H. Ferguson's temperance policy, or want of policy, is not acceptable to the temperance Conservatives of Ontario. If he is seeking to corral the liquor vote for the Conservative party he may keep quiet upon this issue, but the day is past when temperance voters can be expected to follow a Leader who dare not take a stand upon prohibition."

The Christian Guardian, in two additional paragraphs, points out that both the Liberals and the U.F.O. stand squarely for the enforcement of the O.T.A.