

Thursday, Mar. 27th

The Premier introduced for the Attorney-General an amendment to the Landlord and Tenant Act which reinserts a clause in the Ontario statutes stating that three months' rent accrues to the landlord when a tenant goes into bankruptcy. This clause was placed in the Bankruptcy Act, but was held to be ultra vires.

Too Many Young Teachers?

After various private and public bills had been put through the committee stage, the Legislature spent most of the afternoon considering

the main estimates. Aurelien Belanger (Liberal, Russell), discussing the English-French model schools said that fifth forms in primary schools in Russell, Carleton, Glengarry and Prescott were suffering because the students left to go to these English-French training schools, where their board and lodging were provided by the Government. These students were taken from their homes at too early an age, he thought.

The Premier reviewed the history of the establishment of these schools and suggested that probably a system of regions in which the pupils would have to attend these training schools might meet the difficulty, though he thought it would stir up a rumpus. The Premier said that he thought the great weakness of the school system today was that the Province had too many young teachers. He thought experience contributed quite as much to success as the knowledge of the teachers.

During consideration of Lands and Forests estimates, Hon. James Lyons said that the three branches of work, Northern development, colonization, and building of bridges and culverts, were being amalgamated in the North, with a resident engineer in charge of all the work in each district.

When Public Works estimates were reached, Hon. F. C. Biggs inquired as to the Government's intentions in regard to a new Queen's Park office building. He said that material relief to existing congestion had undoubtedly been given by utilization of the University Avenue building, but plans would be found in the Minister of Public Works Department for a new unit building proposed to be erected at 15 and 17 Queen's Park. Premier Ferguson explained a \$50,000 item as one to take care of a possibility of the Government breaking ground for a new building.

Provincial Secretary Goldie explained for the benefit of members the proposed Bowmanville boys' farm scheme, in connection with which \$100,000 was voted. By next fall, he said, the Government expected to have two or three cottages erected. Preliminary investigations as to building location would be made this spring. There was strong possibility, he said, of part of the 308 acres being utilized for a similar girls' farm.

It was explained by the Minister that \$10,000 of the cost of purchasing the Bowmanville property was contributed by J. H. Jury, a Bowmanville philanthropist, who took special interest in boys' work.

Still Spending Money.

Mr. Biggs then criticized the Government for what he deemed to be its apparent failure to live up to advance notices as to a policy of economy, remarking that the Highways Department list was just as large as ever. Premier Ferguson, however, said that by next year the new Minister would have proved his ability to economize to the extent promised, when the engineering staff was cut and reorganized. He added that he anticipated more than 50 per cent. of a decrease in that single item of \$285,000.

Mr. Biggs took up with the Premier the advisability of Deputy Minister Sam Squire occupying a position as Chairman of the Executive of the Canadian Good Roads Association, in which, according to that organization's minutes, he said, he had received a salary of \$4,000 last year. Premier Ferguson did not agree that this was so and promised to take up with Mr. Squire. Mr. Biggs' further statement that he had accepted, since taking his new office, the Good Roads Association's distribution of bonuses.

Why He Endorsed Cure.

Dr. Godfrey, Minister of Health and Labor, explained how he came to endorse the pyorrhea cure of Dr. Harold Box, and said it only was after the discovery had the endorsement of Prof. Stillman of New York and of Prof. McCall, and they had informed him that the discovery was an epoch in dentistry, that he thought it his duty to take action.

Mr. Biggs commended the inspection work done by medical authorities in rural public schools. The only suggestion he had to offer was that the report should come more promptly after the inspection. Dr. Godfrey, answering a question of Dougall Carmichael (Progressive, Centre Grey), said that his department was considering the question of overlapping in inspection under the Mothers' Allowances Board. Answering a question by Harold Fisher (Liberal, Ottawa West), the Premier said that the Government did not intend to have separate Ministers for Labor and Health for the time being, and he said he did not see in the future the necessity for such a division. Dr. Godfrey declared that the two phases of activity—labor and health—were interwoven, and he instanced the supplying of free insulin. He had scores of letters from persons who were not able to purchase insulin who now were recovered and back to work.

Protection of Immigrants.

Mr. Carmichael brought up the question of protection of immigrant boys on farms, and asked what protection the Government was prepared to give them. The Premier replied that an offer had been made to Ottawa to carry on the inspection work conducted by the Dominion Government in return for receiving the money from Ottawa expended for this inspection and supervision. He had not received a definite answer from Ottawa, he said, but added that the Government intended to take authority to license those houses which brought out child immigrants, to fix the conditions, the type of the boy brought out, where he would be placed, and generally to supervise and control the organizations.

The Premier also said that the Government was curtailing the practice which had grown up of having practically every fire in the Province investigated by the Fire Marshal's Department. He thought such investigation should be carried out only where the fire was suspected or where complaints were made. Mr. Fisher did not agree with this view, and thought it was rather a wholesome idea to be in the minds of many people that they would be investigated if a fire occurred, and that as a consequence they would not take so many chances.

To Tax Heavy Autos.

Led by Controller Thomas Foster, a deputation representing various municipalities in Ontario waited yesterday morning upon Premier Ferguson to ask that municipalities receive some of the proceeds collected by the Province in amusement taxes and from race-course meets. The deputation also suggested that aid, probably in the form of a gasoline tax, should be given municipalities because of road expenditures.

The Premier, in reply, said that he could promise nothing this year, but held out hope for some relief in the years following. He intimated that a gasoline tax would be imposed next year, and also said that he favored a heavier impost on motor trucks and high-speed cars. Speaking generally, he said, he thought the Province had invaded the municipal field in taxation, but at the present it would have to continue to hold this field. Motor truck owners, he said, might look forward with what equanimity they could to bearing heavier imposts.

CHURCH UNION CASE PLACED BY SPEAKERS BEFORE LEGISLATORS

Private Bills Committee Receives Representatives of Denominations Concerned

OPPONENTS STATE VIEWS

Six speakers before the Private Bills Committee in the Provincial Legislature presented the case for and against Church Union yesterday, together with the reasons for and against the Ontario Government granting the necessary legislation that will give effect to the proposed union. Three of the speakers were Unionists, and one opposed to Union, while counsel for both factions spoke briefly on the legal aspects of the bill.

Leaders of the three negotiating Churches presented the case for organic union, Rev. Dr. S. D. Chown, General Superintendent of the Methodist Church, speaking for that denomination; Rev. W. T. Gunn for the Congregationalists, and Rev. Principal Alfred Gandier, Moderator of the General Assembly, being the spokesman for Presbyterianism. Thomas McMillan, President of the Presbyterian Church Association, was the only speaker for the opponents of Union. They will have their innings before the committee this morning.

Keen Interest Shown.

Indicative of the keen interest that is being taken in the question, the committee room was completely filled, with a number of ladies among those present. In introducing the bill C. R. McKeown, member for Dufferin, requested that no questions be asked the speakers, but that these be reserved until Friday, when the complete case pro and con will have been presented. To present their case Unionists have been allowed three and a quarter hours, and those opposed to Union three hours.

Refers to Other Unions.

The first speaker for Union, Rev. Dr. Chown, stated in his opening remarks that it was a historic occasion. Never before had there been such a bill before any Legislature, to unite three great historic Christian denominations. Union was not a new thing, however, among the Methodists. For half a century they had been looking toward Union and striving for it, and many other unions had been consummated during these years. In days gone by there had been manifested the same opposition they were meeting now. When unions had been brought about in 1875 and in 1883 there had been the same gloomy predictions and forebodings, but they had failed to convince the public then, and they would fail now.

Dealing with the objects for Union, Dr. Chown said the first and primary thing that was sought was spiritual results. It was their desire to gather into the United Church of Canada all the glory and the fervor of the Presbyterian, Methodist and Congregational Churches, in order to create the strongest possible agency for the propagation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to further and extend the work of Christ. At home and abroad the divisions of the Church had hindered the work.

Bill Is Considered.

Coming to the provisions of the bill, the speaker said that congregations now in existence were not disturbed in the least in their existing usages of worship. They could still sing the same psalms and hymns and have the same theology as before. The theology that was