

Tuesday, March 3rd

CHURCH UNION BILL GETS FIRST READING AT ONTARIO HOUSE

Measure Introduced in Legis-
lature and Formally Given
Place on "Orders"

NEW SECTIONS IN ACT

How Clauses Deal With Prop-
erties of Non-Concurring
Congregations and Voting

Introduced by Thomas L. Ken-
nedy (Conservative, Peel), in the
absence of Anthony M. Rankin
(Conservative, Frontenac), in whose
name the bill stands, the Church
Union Bill received first reading
yesterday in the Legislature. As is
usual on first reading, there was no
debate nor comment. The bill is
No. 18.

Except as otherwise provided, the
act sets forth that all property, real
and personal, within the Province
belonging to or held in trust for or
to the use of the uniting Churches
shall be vested in the United Church
in accordance with the terms and
provisions of the basis of Union.

Congregational Properties.

Any property, real or personal,
held at the time of the coming into
force of the act, or thereafter ac-
quired by devise, bequest, transfer
or gift in trust for any special use
of any congregation, shall be used,
held and administered in accordance
with the special trusts so declared,
not being contrary to law or to any
by-law, rule or regulation of the
United Church. In the event of
failure or partial failure of any of
the said trusts, the said property, in
the absence of any express provision
for such event, may be held, used,
administered or disposed of as may
be provided by any by-law, rule or
regulation made from time to time
by the United Church.

Any real or personal properties
belonging to or held by or in trust
for or to the use of any congrega-
tion, whether a congregation of the
negotiating Churches or a congrega-
tion received into the United Church
after the coming into force of this
act, solely for its own benefit, and
in which the denomination to
which such congregation belongs
has no right or interest, reversionary
or otherwise, are not subject to the
provisions above or the control of
the United Church unless and un-
til any such congregation at a meet-
ing regularly called for the pur-
pose shall consent that such pro-
visions shall apply to any such
property or a specified part thereof.

Non-Concurring Congregations.

In respect of property of non-
concurring congregations the fol-
lowing clause is in the bill: "Provid-
ed always that if any congregation
in connection or communion with
any of the negotiating Churches
shall, at a meeting of the congrega-
tion regularly called and held be-
fore June 10, 1925, decide by a ma-
jority of votes of the persons pres-
ent at such meeting and entitled to
vote thereat not to enter the said
Union of the said Churches, then
and in such case the property be-
longing to or held in trust for or to
the use of such non-concurring con-
gregation shall remain unaffected by
this act, except that any church
formed by non-concurring congrega-
tions of the respective negotiating
Churches into which such congrega-
tion enters shall stand in the place
of the respective negotiating Churches
in respect of any such trusts relat-

ing to such property, and except that
in respect of any such congregation
which does not enter any church so
formed such property shall be held
by the existing trustees or other
trustees elected by the congregation
free from any trust or reversion in
favor of the respective negotiating
Churches, and free from any control
thereof or connection therewith. The
vote herein provided for shall be
taken by ballot, in such form and
manner and at such time within the
limit prescribed by this subsection
as the congregation may decide;
provided that not less than two
weeks shall be allowed for the tak-
ing of such vote by ballot as afore-
said. The said meeting may be ad-
journed for the purpose of said
ballot being taken, but not for a
longer period than 30 days. Should
any such congregation, not having
become part of any church so form-
ed, decide in the manner aforesaid
at any later time to enter the Union
and become part of the United
Church, then this act shall apply to
such congregation and all the prop-
erty thereof from the date of such
decision."

New Sections of Bill.

The clause quoted above is sub-
stantially the same as the clause in
the bill of last year, except for the
latter part, describing the mode of
vote. However, several more sec-
tions are added in this year's bill.
One is that any vote taken in ac-
cordance with the act of incorpora-
tion is to be deemed the vote of such
congregation for the purposes of the
act. Another section provides that
the persons entitled to vote were
those in full membership and whose
names were on the roll of the church
July 19, 1924; and another section
sets forth how the congregational
meeting is to be called, and in this
respect follows the provisions of the
Ottawa bill.

The clauses respecting colleges
are the same in the new bill as in
the bill of last year, except that the
provisions of these clauses are not
to apply to any college or property
allocated to non-concurring congrega-
tions after the date of such allo-
cation.

Another new clause gives the
right to solemnize marriage to any
duly ordained or appointed minister
of the United Church, or of any of
the negotiating Churches, whether
such minister becomes a member of
the United Church or not.

The bill now will be considered by
the Committee on Private Bills.

NO HELP FOR NORTH N SUCCORING POOR, PREMER INDICATES

New Ontario Members Tell of
Problems With Sick
Indigents

HOSPITALS VERY SCARCE

In short order yesterday the
Legislature cleaned up all the busi-
ness before it for the Monday after-
noon, discussed and passed four
bills through committee and sec-
ond reading states, and then ad-
journed—private members to fol-
low their own inclinations and mem-
bers of the Cabinet to wrestle with
financial statistics in the form of
estimates in the privacy of the Coun-
cil room.

One Northern Problem.

Most of yesterday afternoon's dis-
cussions centred upon the plea of
Malcolm Lang, Liberal member for
Cochrane, for some Government as-
sistance to Northern Ontario muni-
cipalities in instances where in-
digent sick people are brought with-
in their confines for treatment.
Having no hospitals, Mr. Lang said,
the municipality is humanely com-
pelled to send them to a hospital
centre, at which point it is
charged all the expenses incurred,
although the needy person might
never have been resident of the mu-
nicipality. In the same connection,
H. Fisher, K.C., Ottawa, thought
there ought to be a general over-
hauling of the hospital situation.

Premier Ferguson, while sympa-
thizing with the municipalities in
the difficult situation presented to
them, thought that it was one of the
problems inevitable in a newly de-
veloped territory, and stated that the
Government could not undertake to
give a blanket order of payment for
all indigents' sick bills. He added,
however, that in the special contri-
butions made to hospitals in that
territory there was a considerable
measure of assistance already grant-
ed.

Bills Moved On.

The bills which were moved on
a stage in yesterday's session were
Attorney-General Nickle's bill em-
powering a Surrogate Court Judge
to fix compensation of an estate
trustee; amendment to the Work-
men's Compensation Act, safeguard-
ing children of an undeserving
mother; Prisons and Charities Act
amendment, and Landlord and Ten-
ant Act amendment.