

Friday, March 27th

were even more open to question. Mr. Nickle replied that he had prepared the briefs himself, from information which he could gather from all quarters, and in consultation with an eminent Canadian scientist whose name he could not give, but who was a prohibitionist.

Mr. Raney criticized Mr. Nickle for introducing to the Legislature evidence which had been presented to the U. S. Senate committee and scrapped by that body, inasmuch as they had adopted a maximum of one-half of 1 per cent., which, Mr. Nickle retorted, was not based on any scientific authority, but simply on the standards accepted by the States.

When Mr. Nickle stated that it was chiefly upon the writings of Prof. Starling and on the findings of the British committee which he had relied, Mr. Raney first took up Prof. Starling's book, "The Action of Alcohol on Man," and read from the preface to show the attitude in which it was written. Prof. Starling had said it would be a calamity if a large minority of people had their right to drink alcoholic beverages taken away from them by law.

An Anti-Prohibition Commission?

Mr. Raney, after quoting from Prof. Starling's book, declared The Lancet said the book was unworthy of its author, and that eminent social reformers in England had stated that they had documentary evidence to justify the assertion that the book originally was commissioned by the Anti-Prohibition League. The London Daily Herald had asked the author about it, but he had declined to enter into controversy.

Mr. Raney quoted Rex v. McLean in 1898 to prove that beer of the strength of 4.4 was intoxicating, according to a York County Court judgment. Then there was plenty of evidence given by those in favor of the Volstead Act which Mr. Nickle did not tell of, Mr. Raney said. He quoted extensively from United States authorities and from English writers, and concluded by saying that the views of eminent scientists were that beer of 4.4 strength was intoxicating.

COUNTY BOUNDARIES NOT TO BE ALTERED FOR NEW RIDINGS

Redistribution Bill in Blank Form Comes Before Legislature

GOES ON TO COMMITTEE

Concurrent with an announcement that the Legislature would rise at Easter, which leaves ten working days, the Government laid its Redistribution Bill, in the usual blank form, before the House yesterday. In the bill the Government states a desire not to interfere with county boundaries in the proposed realignment of constituencies, and the Premier said that a committee would get to work upon it right away. The Government has had legal officers at work for weeks preparing data for the committee.

"I heard it stated," said Mr. Sinclair, Liberal Leader, "that this bill was not to be finished, but was to go over the recess."

Mr. Ferguson—Does my honorable friend suggest that course?

Mr. Sinclair—No.

Mr. Ferguson—Well, that is not my view of it.

Hon. J. R. Cooke, Minister without portfolio, then brought down for ratification the agreement between the City of Toronto and the Harbor Commission for the deeding of land for a new transmission line.

Amending Compensation Act.

Attorney-General Nickle introduced another amendment to the Workmen's Compensation Act, which is aimed to prevent an injured workman securing compensation in Quebec Province by a process of law and also compensation in Ontario under the Compensation Act. Mr. Nickle said that Quebec was introducing similar legislation.

At the request of E. Proulx, Liberal member for Prescott, the House referred back to the Private Bills Committee a bill which is to relieve the Town of Hawkesbury from difficulties it has got into in respect of \$125,000 which it borrowed for a Housing Commission.

F. W. Wilson, Conservative member for Windsor, arose to ask the Premier when he might expect discussion upon his motion for a system of Government control of liquor in Ontario under a local option system. The Premier replied that while he could not indicate the date, he would undertake that the member should have opportunity of discussing the subject. "Academic resolutions," he said, always had to give way to Government business.