

Tuesday, March 8th

## LYONS-DRURY DISPUTE CONTINUES IN HOUSE

Hon. Mr. Raney Takes Up  
Cudgels in Behalf of For-  
mer Prime Minister

### GIVES LONG EXPLANATION

The dispute between ex-Premier Drury and Hon. James Lyons echoed again in the Legislature yesterday.

On Thursday Mr. Lyons declared that, after announcing that \$12,000 was too much money for a Premier to draw, and after announcing acceptance of only \$9,000, Mr. Drury had, "after his rejection at the polls," slipped "back to the Treasury" and took "the money he had turned down."

Yesterday Hon. W. E. Raney took up the fight for Mr. Drury.

#### "These Are the Facts."

"These are the facts," said he. "When the Drury Government came into power in November, 1919, the salary of the Prime Minister was, as it is now, \$12,000 a year. Mr. Drury thought that this salary was out of ratio with the salaries of the other Ministers of the Crown, which at that time were fixed by the statute at \$6,000 a year.

"This being his view, and having regard to the stringent financial conditions of the time, including prevalent unemployment and high taxation, Mr. Drury decided to forego \$3,000 of the \$12,000 salary. His intention was known to other members of the Government and to the Government's following in the House, but, so far as I recall, Mr. Drury never made an announcement of the fact either in the House or on the platform.

"Mr. Drury drew \$9,000 of the statutory salary for the fiscal year of 1919-20, and the same amount for the fiscal years of 1920-21 and 1921-22. For the eight and one-half months intervening between the end of the last-named fiscal year, that is to say, the first of November, 1922, and the date of his resignation, which was on July 15, 1923, Mr. Drury drew the statutory salary at the rate of \$12,000 a year.

#### \$9,000 Still in Coffers.

"The net result is that \$9,000 of the statutory salary of the office of Prime Minister, being \$3,000 a year for three years, was not drawn by Mr. Drury and still remains in the Public Treasury, and Mr. Drury's recompense for this act of self-abnegation on his part is the offensive and untruthful statement made by the ex-Minister of Lands and Forests on the floor of this House last Friday."

"That only confirms what I said," retorted Mr. Lyons. In the last year, he went on, Mr. Drury had taken every cent he could get, and if he had been able to get other payments on the other three years "he would have taken the balance."

## LEGISLATIVE WHEELS SPINNING MERRILY

Many Bills Are Dealt With  
in House and in  
Committees

Legislative machinery whirred merrily in Queen's Park yesterday, some fifteen bills being given third reading, and a dozen passing the House in committee.

Included in those carried in the committee stage was the amendment to the Hydro-Electric Railway Act, 1914. This amendment, Mr. Ferguson explained, repealed the old legislation which provided for the Province guaranteeing bonds for radial railways. Motor traffic had cut in on the radial business with disastrous effects, he noted, and if municipalities insisted on radial lines they should be prepared to bear the burden of guarantees.

When the House in committee came to an act respecting the T. & N.O. Railway, Premier Ferguson revised the measure so as to increase the remuneration of the Chairman of the Commissioners from \$8,000 to \$10,000 a year, and to provide \$4,000 for the Vice-Chairman. Carried.

Measures given third reading included the amendment to the Mining Act, amendment to Psychiatric Hospitals Act, the Forestry Act, amendment to Bulk Sales Act; acts respecting Village of Humberstone, respecting Township of Bertie, respecting Township of North York, respecting Township of Thorold, respecting Town of Sudbury, respecting General Synod and Missionary Society of the Church of England in Canada, respecting Town of Cobalt; amendments to the Athletic Commission Act, Marriage Act, County Judges Act, and to the Act to Incorporate the Evangelical Lutheran Seminary of Canada.