

Friday, March 25th

BIG APPROPRIATION FOR LICENSE BOARD CUT OFF ESTIMATES

Sinclair Notes That It Would
Be Replaced by Govern-
ment Commission

LIBERALS "SAVE MONEY"

For the first time in several years, the Government yesterday struck a money vote from its main estimates. An appropriation of \$48,575, for purposes of administering the Board of License Commissioners Branch, was "thrown out" of the estimates, when Liberal Leader William E. N. Sinclair, in characteristic watchful attitude, called the attention of the Legislature to the fact that the board in question would not be functioning in 1928, because of its replacement by the new Government Control Commission, and that, as a consequence, the suggested appropriation would not be required.

Inadvertently Included.

The Liberal Leader's victory was a purely technical one, however, as Premier Ferguson explained that the item in question had been prepared by the departmental staff and inadvertently included with the others. The vote, he said, would automatically lapse, as there would be no use for the money.

"Why should this money be voted if it's not going to be used?" asked Mr. Sinclair. And when the item was struck off, he humorously added: "My, but we're saving money this afternoon."

A short while later his "eagle" eye caught another item—a vote of \$30,000 under the head "Revision of the Statutes." What need was there of this 1928 appropriation, he asked, when the work of revising the statutes was to be concluded, as had been intimated by the Prime Minister, in October of this year?

Mr. Ferguson said that money would be required for extra printing, proofs, checking, and other minor purposes, even after the revision was completed, but that considerably less money would meet this end. Again he explained that the departmental staff in inserting the \$30,000 figure had just followed the practice of last year.

Another Reduction.

Attorney-General Price expressed the belief that the estimate was too high, and that they "could get along on \$10,000." The reduction was made accordingly.

Mr. Sinclair beamed. "What do you know about that?" he said. "Here we are—the Liberal party—saving money for the Government and helping to sustain its reputation up and down the country of being good financiers."

At the request of Hon. W. E. Raney, Progressive Leader, passing of the Hydro estimates, under the Premier's Department, was deferred until next week, when on the arrangement of Mr. Ferguson and Hon. J. R. Cooke, Hydro Commissioner, a special afternoon will be devoted by the House to consideration of the votes and general discussion of the power situation in the Province, with special attention being paid to rural extension and development plans for the future.

Says Industry Aided.

During consideration of the estimates of \$864,300 for technical education, Premier Ferguson pointed out that this type of education had grown to become "a substantial charge against the revenue of the Province." The fact that technical and vocational training contributed to the progress of industry was the basis for the Province undertaking to support technical schools. The Province was loath to undertake at any great length trade education, as it interfered with the established systems of apprenticeship.

Questioned later on educational estimates, Premier Ferguson stated that the Province "by judicial management" had accumulated \$10,000,000 in the teachers' superannuation fund.

Noting an estimate of \$263,500 for colonization road by-laws, William Newman (Liberal, North Victoria) pointed out that this was lower than last year's estimate. He thought that the expenditures for this work should be increased.

Would Pay \$100 for License.

Premier Ferguson intimated that before the year was over that might be done. Mr. Newman pointed out that, while truck owners in the North Country paid the same license fees as city truck men, they could use their vehicles only a few months in the year, as compared with the continuous usage in the city. "If I had to pay \$100 for a license," said he, "I'd be willing, if I could only get roads such as you have here in Toronto."

The House spent several hours on the estimates. The following votes were approved: Lieutenant-Governor's office, \$5,450; Legislation, \$376,100; Attorney-General's Department, \$2,128,360; Insurance Department, \$47,050; Education Department, \$7,429,052; Lands and Forests Department, \$2,326,725; Northern Development, \$501,700; Mines Department, \$358,550; Game and Fisheries, \$517,635; Public Works Department, \$1,216,330, and Highways Department, \$525,725.

SCHOONER NANCY'S HULL WILL BE PRESERVED

Remains of Historic Vessel to Be Raised From Watery Bed

Hon. George S. Henry, Minister of Public Works, said yesterday that in the course of a few weeks departmental engineers will call for tenders for the raising of the hull of the historic schooner, Nancy, now lying near the mouth of the Nottawasaga River at Wasaga Beach.

According to Mr. Henry, the Government is anxious to get operations under way. Work will be commenced just as soon as the spring freshets subside.

"The Government," he said, "will see that the hull is raised and housed on the island in the mouth of the river. An arrangement has been entered into with the County of Simcoe to take care of the 'memorial' after that." Estimates to the amount of \$5,000 for the purpose of caring for the work have been provided by his department.