

Thursday, Feb. 16th

SUCCESSION BILL IS UNNECESSARY, CLAIMS SINCLAIR

Sees No Justification for Changes Proposed by Monteith

JUST SOMETHING TO DO

In the Legislature yesterday Liberal Leader Sinclair turned the guns of his sarcasm on Provincial Treasurer Monteith's bill to amend the Succession Duties Act.

This bill would reduce the time within which duty is payable from 18 to 12 months, and would increase the rate of interest from 5 to 6 per cent. In addition, it provides for reciprocity between Ontario and any other Province of the Dominion or of the Union desiring it in taxation of intangible personal property.

Satisfactory Now.

Mr. Sinclair claimed that the act in its present form was very satisfactory, and that he could see no justification for the proposed changes. There were a good many estimates, he maintained, which could not be settled in less than 18 months. Nor did he see any necessity for raising the interest rate, especially when solicitors and others connected with the winding up of estates were just getting accustomed to it. In spite of the Provincial Treasurer's assertions that the change constituted "no hardships," he failed to see them in any other light save "impositions."

"The Treasurer," said Mr. Sinclair, "may have some other reason for the bill than he has given in this House. If so, we would like to hear it." When Hon. Dr. Monteith remained silent, Mr. Sinclair inferred that the Government might have had an eye cocked toward "a large surplus" when it drafted the measure.

"All in the Window."

Mr. Sinclair suggested that the Government wouldn't get very far with its reciprocity idea. "It's like the university bill," he said. "It's all in the window, but with no goods behind it. It's all right to talk reciprocity when there's no one to talk it to. Probably, it's just as I stated yesterday. The Government has nothing much to do, but it has to think of something, so this act was as good as anything to bring in."

While it was admitted from the Government benches that Nova Scotia was the only Province at the present time with which Ontario had "a working arrangement," Attorney-General Price was optimistic for the future.

"We'll get a lot farther with this reciprocity," he flung at Mr. Sinclair, "than you people did with yours in 1911."

The only clause in the new bill which escaped Opposition fire was that providing that all insurance policies of \$1,000 or under, with the

consent of the Treasurer, be paid over to the beneficiary without waiting for a settlement of the estate.

In addition to giving second reading to this bill, the House gave further impetus to some half-dozen other measures. Acts to amend the Bulk Sales Act, the Mothers' Allowances Act and the Local Improvement Act were given second reading, while acts to amend the Trustee Act and the Municipal Act passed Committee of the Whole House.

MARTIN IS QUERIED ON CATTLE TESTING IN ONTARIO HOUSE

Present System and Policy Until New T. B. Treatment Perfected

PROVINCE-WIDE DEMAND

That until new treatment of bovine tuberculosis is perfected and established, the Ontario Department of Agriculture will maintain its present system and policy, was the statement of Hon. John S. Martin in the Legislature yesterday afternoon.

The subject was broached by J. W. Widdifield (Progressive, North Ontario), who referred to two articles in The Globe on the subject of tests of tubercular cattle, one telling of a new treatment which was said to be of great value.

Mr. Widdifield started reading the articles and adding a few remarks, but under protests from the Premier of "What is the point?" and orders from the Speaker that he was entitled to ask a question, but not make a speech, he finally put a query to Mr. Martin.

Any Information?

"My question," he said, "is if, in the absence of any change of policy in the Federal Department or Ontario Department, the department has any information on this subject that the general public has not, because this is a very definite pronouncement which looks like a success."

"This is a big question and I doubt if I can answer it at the present moment," replied Mr. Martin. "There is a cleavage in opinion on tubercular tests."

Ontario officials, said he, had investigated the new method, but they were not prepared to state it could do all that was claimed for it.

"The test we have at present is the only safe way to detect tuberculosis in cattle. In the West they breed cattle for their meat, here we specialize in milk, and our dairymen realize tuberculosis can be carried through milk. They would not add one animal to their herds that had not been tested for tuberculosis, and unless they received a certificate from the Ottawa Government."

"Getting Ready."

"It is coming to the point where there is going to be the absolute demand by the villages, towns and cities all over the Province that they be given no milk unless it comes from T. B. tested animals. We are simply getting ready. It is not as serious as the article points out."

"We co-operate with the Ottawa Government," said Mr. Martin. "They send their inspectors and do the actual inspecting. We look after the transportation and assist in organizing the campaign. Recently we cleaned up Prince Edward County. It was not a serious matter. There they had 25,000 head of cattle. It is a T.B. free area. The loss was only between 2 and 3 per cent."

"The plan is to set aside an area between the Ottawa and the St. Lawrence Rivers and proceed with this early this spring. On the other side they are demanding any milk we ship them must be T.B. tested."

"Our Veterinary College at Guelph is looking over everything. Until this process is established I think that the policy of our department is to continue along present lines."

MORE QUERIES MADE ON LIQUOR BUSINESS

Lincoln M.P.P. Wants to Know Number of Drunken-Driver Convictions

REVENUE FROM HUNTERS

Opposition members continue their interrogation of the Government on matters pertaining to the Liquor Control Act and its administration.

P. W. Pearson (Liberal, North York) asks, through the House order paper, the amount received by the Liquor Control Board up to Oct. 31, 1927, from the sale of beer, ale, wine and spirituous liquors.

How Many Convictions?

R. H. Kemp (Progressive, Lincoln) asks how many convictions there were against drivers of motor vehicles for driving while intoxicated (1) for the six months ending April 30, 1927; (2) for six months ending Oct. 31, 1927. He also asks in how many instances during these two six-month periods were charges laid for the offense of driving while intoxicated in which there were no convictions.

In another field of inquiry, Mr. Kemp asks the amount of revenue received by the Government from the issue of hunters' licenses in Lincoln and Welland Counties for the year 1926; what was the amount received from fines for violations of the Game and Fish Protection Act in these counties for the same year; and what amount was expended by the Treasury in enforcing the act.

Revision of Rules.

Aurelien Belanger (Liberal, Russell) has given notice of a resolution calling for the appointment by the House of a committee to revise the rules of procedure of the Assembly, and to report back before the close of the present session.

MR. FERGUSON 'SPOKE' WEEK BEFORE HE DID

Mr. Lethbridge Counters Gibe of Delivering Same Address

J. G. Lethbridge, Progressive Leader in the Legislature, yesterday afternoon grasped an opportunity that he had missed on the previous day for twitting the Prime Minister.

On Tuesday when the Progressive Leader rose to speak, Mr. Ferguson, noting that an evening paper already carried a report of his speech, inquired if the honorable member intended delivering the same address that he had already delivered earlier in the day.

Opportunity Lost.

Mr. Lethbridge, apparently disconcerted, passed up a golden opportunity of hoisting the Premier with his own petard, and glossed over the situation with a remark about such things happening before.

But yesterday afternoon he brought back the moment of opportunity. Happy, confident, he rose, before the orders of the day were called, and referred to a morning newspaper account of the Tuesday situation.

Then he paused, smiled the smile of a conqueror—and spoke.

Even Staler.

"Is it not a fact," he asked the House, "that in 1922 The Telegram published a speech of the Premier's which he intended to deliver—but which wasn't delivered until the following week? If mine was a little stale, his was even more so."

"I'd like to have that verified," retorted Mr. Ferguson, laughing.