

## Higher Township Road Grants? Questions Progressive Leader

He suggested in the last-named connection that Ontario follow Quebec's example of establishing roads before the settlers go in. "In Ontario," he pointed out, "there is a tendency to build roads after the settlers has gone in, leaving opportunity for patronage, and discrimination in the building of these roads."

Mr. Fletcher suggested that the Department of Agriculture should carry on an intensive system of education to teach the grower that quality of product was the first essential. In conclusion he expressed his support for the Sinclair-Mewhinney amendment before the House, which regrets that the Government has made no provision this year for old-age pensions.

### Weed Menace.

As next speaker W. G. Medd (Progressive, South Huron) opened on a new topic, the menace of the spreading of weeds confronting the farmer. "Clean Ontario" and "keep Ontario clean," said Mr. Medd, urging the Government to provide immediate regulations to eradicate the menace by cleaning up roadsides, enforcing early cutting of weeds on abandoned farms and lots, and starting an educational campaign showing methods of cultivation which would in time free the farms from weeds. Describing the spreading of weeds, he gave statistics showing the dangers of farmers sowing untested seed.

Mr. Medd praised the present dairy legislation in regard to the grading of butter, and advocated that there be no changes. It would be a backward move, said he, to add even a single grade more.

The speaker suggested a Board of Governors for the Ontario Agricultural College to keep this institution out of politics. He thought the board should be without remuneration other than travelling expenses, and a small fee each day for general expenses while acting in the interests of the college.

### Wants Project Tested.

Mr. Medd also advocated that the Township School Board project should be tried out in two or three townships at least, and if it was successful there much of the opposition would be wiped out.

The member fired a broadside at the Government on the subject of the Liquor Control Act. He declared that the Premier in the Speech from the Throne had not given a faithful picture of conditions under the act. There were many loopholes in the measure. He would not allow owners of liquor permits to possess automobile operators' licenses also. As an illustration of loopholes in the act he cited a press report which stated that in the London district a boy of 19 had a liquor permit despite provision that the minimum age for a permit holder be 21 years.

Russell Nesbitt (Conservative, Toronto-Bracondale) adjourned the debate. It goes over until Tuesday afternoon next week.

## No Change Expected In Truck Legislation

While promising that their request would be given consideration, Hon. George S. Henry, Minister of Highways, intimated to representatives from the Ontario Motor Truck Owners' Association who waited on him yesterday, asking an increase in the maximum weight-carrying of trucks, that no change need be expected at this session of the Legislature.

Eight tons, which is the present weight limit on the highways, is considered too low by the operators.

Several other deputations were heard by Mr. Henry during the day, and promised consideration. Parkhill residents, headed by Tom McGladery, former M.P.P., asked that No. 7 Highway be routed through their town. Completion of No. 7, the Ottawa-Sarnia Highway, east of Peterboro', was asked by an East Hastings deputation. A third deputation requested that the Department take into its Provincial system the road from Harriston, through Mount Forest, to Shelburne.

That Hon. George S. Henry, Minister of Highways, would announce in the near future plans for a more equal distribution of the burden that must be borne in connection with our highways, was given by Premier Ferguson in the Legislature yesterday.

The Premier spoke in reply to J. G. Lethbridge, Progressive Leader, who questioned him on a report of his address to the Good Roads Association.

## PLANS SUGGESTED FOR MENTAL PATIENTS FOLLOWING RELEASE

### Deputation Before Provincial Secretary Favors Establish- ing Convalescent Home

### CONSIDERATION PROMISED

The Ontario Government, through Hon. Lincoln Goldie, Provincial Secretary, was asked yesterday by a large deputation, representative of nearly every municipality in the Province, to establish convalescent institutions for the some thousand patients of mental institutions, now cured, which it plans to release as the circumstances warrant.

Argument of the deputation, which was headed by C. A. Seguin of Ottawa, was to the effect that many of these mental patients would have to be housed in municipal institutions, and that, without resident medical supervision and the presence of specially trained male and female nurses, their presence there would not only be unfair to the custodians of the institutions, but also to the aged inmates.

### Toronto's View Presented.

Speaking on behalf of the City of Toronto, Controller Bert Wemp declared that Toronto favored the establishment of a convalescent home, and was willing to assume its burden of the cost involved. A similar attitude was voiced, generally speaking, by the whole deputation. Dr. C. J. Hastings, M.O.H., endorsed Major Wemp's stand, declaring that it was difficult for the most experienced psychiatrists to tell when a mental patient was cured or not, and that the only possible way of caring for the patients the Province contemplated releasing was through the medium suggested. "In fact," he said, "such care is absolutely necessary."

That the convalescent homes, if established, should be run on a capita per diem basis was the suggestion advanced from one quarter. That basis, it was argued, would be the most economical.

"The most economical from your point of view," said Mr. Goldie, "would be to let us build the institutions, and maintain them, too."

### Relatives Neglectful.

Mr. Goldie pointed out that there had been too great a tendency in the past to let patients go into the Provincial institutions, and then forget them. Relatives often committed people, gave their bond, and then, after a few months, neglected payment. As a result of that practice, the Government had now \$1,400,000 in accounts outstanding.

The Provincial Secretary made it plain to the deputation that only the "cured" patients will be released, and that their release will be made only after the Government has had ample assurance that they will be cared for properly. "It is not our intention, here in Toronto," said he, "to take a truckload of them and dump them down at the City Hall steps."

While promising encouragement to their "convalescent home" suggestion, he could offer no definite encouragement. It is understood, however, that the Government will adhere to the policy of release first formulated, and as described, and that the institutions advocated are beyond the pale of materialization—at the present time, at least.

Mr. Lethbridge wondered if a suggestion in the report really meant that the Government would raise township grants. Such a move, promised the Progressive Leader, would meet with the support of his followers.

Mr. Ferguson stated that, while the policy of relief for sparsely settled townships remote from the highways had not been definitely laid down, there would possibly be some announcement in the near future.

## BEER MOTION LIKELY MONDAY OR FRIDAY

### Legislature Decks May Be Cleared for Budget on Thursday

There will be a busy and probably hectic week in the Ontario Legislature starting next Monday.

Yesterday Premier Ferguson outlined a tentative program, and started off his remarks with a reply to F. W. Wilson (Conservative, Windsor East), who had wanted to know when his "beer-by-the-glass" motion would be considered. Mr. Wilson was not in the House yesterday, but the Premier, hoping that the information would come to his ears, stated that the motion would probably come up on Monday or Friday next week.

As for the present debate, ample opportunity would be given to everybody who wished to air their views, said Mr. Ferguson, but possibly with afternoon and evening sessions on Tuesday and Wednesday, the decks could be cleared by that time for the bringing down of the Budget on Thursday. The Provincial Treasurer was prepared to present the Budget on that day, but this move could be deferred if it was felt that the debate should be continued.

## PROPERTY COMMITTEE HEARS 3 DEPUTATIONS

### Allows Erection of Houses on 50-Foot Lots in Law- rence Park

Norman Sommerville, K.C., appeared with a large deputation opposing any lessening of the restrictions in the Lawrence Park district, before the Property Committee yesterday. Another deputation appeared asking that certain restrictions be revoked on Lawrence Avenue. After considerable discussion the committee decided to allow the erection of single or duplex houses on the south side of Lawrence Avenue, between Yonge Street and Mount Pleasant Road, on 50-foot lots. The by-law will now go on to the Railway Board. John Tuttle appeared for applicants.

The erection of an apartment house on Laxton Avenue has been the cause of much controversy between interested parties for some time. Alderman Joe Wright introduced Mrs. Guinane, the applicant, and a number of her supporters, including John McGarry. It was found, however, that while the applicant stated she desired to erect only one 37-suite apartment, the plans called for three adjoining apartments of that size. A new application will be made for a 37-suite building.

A permit was granted for the erection of a 16-story office building at the northwest corner of Adelaide and Shepard Streets.