

Wednesday, Feb. 29th

FAINT PRAISE GIVEN TO "CONTROL" ACT IN HOUSE DEBATE

Worked Better Than He Ex- pected, Says T. K. Slack

DISCUSSION NEARS END

By means of a night sitting, which did not adjourn until 11.55 o'clock, the latest hour to which the House has sat to date this session, the Ontario Legislature last night went into the "home stretch" on the debate on the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne. The debate will continue this afternoon, with Hon. William Finlayson, Minister of Lands and Forests, bringing it to a close this evening, and paving the way to the bringing down of the Budget tomorrow afternoon.

Three Other Speakers.

While Attorney-General Price, with his Liquor-Control speech, occupied the greater part of the House's time yesterday, three other speakers, J. H. Mitchell (Liberal, Southeast Simcoe); T. K. Slack (Progressive, Dufferin), and Russell Nesbitt (Conservative, Bracondale) got in their speaking "licks" before adjournment was reached.

Mr. Mitchell clashed with the Attorney-General over a reference to the Beeton cattle-rustling case of last year. Mr. Slack stated not only his own position, but that of his riding to the House on the "bilinguals" and "Regulation 17" question, and Mr. Nesbitt warmly defended the Government's rural Hydro policy.

G. A. Robertson (Liberal, North Huron) adjourned the debate.

J. H. Mitchell (Liberal, Southwest Simcoe) failed to see where Government control was satisfying the people of the Province. He claimed that the act was unsound from a moral standpoint, that "the more liquor that is sold, the more intemperance there will be.

"I would advocate," he said, "placing on the windows of every liquor store beneath the coat of arms, the words 'Boys and Girls, Keep Out! The Stuff We Sell Is Injurious.'"

The Beeton Case.

In referring to the Beeton case of last fall, Mr. Mitchell claimed that there was a certain attitude of questioning on the part of the public as to why the Crown had arrested a truck driver on a charge of theft, had allowed him liberty on bail of \$10,000 and had then allowed him complete freedom without an investigation.

"Why do you say without investigation?" inquired Mr. Ferguson.

"Without trial," said the Liberal member.

In a reply, which Mr. Sinclair charged to be "an unwarranted speech,"

Attorney-General Price maintained that the Crown's investigation of the case had convinced the authorities that there was no evidence which would warrant bringing the man to trial.

T. K. Slack (Progressive, Dufferin) deplored the "very meagre mention" of the old-age pension scheme in the Speech from the Throne. The Premier, he said, had apparently not given the question the study it deserved, and he suggested that Mr. Ferguson was not particularly in sympathy with it.

"Surely," objected Mr. Ferguson, "the honorable member must remember that I said that the Conservative Government was responsible for the Mothers' Allowances Act and left it ready in the pigeonhole for the Progressive Government."

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Appeal for Highway Made by Deputation

A large and representative deputation sponsored by Dr. G. A. McQuibban (Liberal, Northeast Wellington), W. G. Medd (Progressive, Huron South) and C. A. Robertson (Liberal, Huron North) waited on Hon. George S. Henry, Minister of Highways, yesterday to reiterate its last year's appeal for designation as a Provincial highway of the road running from Fennells to Harriston by way of Mount Forest.

This road at the present time is a county road. Yesterday's deputation argued that by taking it into the Provincial system the Government would greatly lighten the traffic load in this section of the Province.

Mr. Henry, while promising his consideration of their appeal, was unable to hold out much hope to the deputation, especially in view of the fact that work for the coming summer has practically all been programmed.