

Wednesday, March 14th

MANITOULIN WOLF MENACE TERROR TO SHEEP-OWNERS

Representative in Legislature Makes Plea for Government Assistance in Fencing Farms and by Increasing Bounty

In the hope of combatting the present wolf menace on Manitoulin Island, Thomas Farquhar, U.F.O. member for the riding of that name, urged, before the Legislature yesterday, that the Government aid the farmers, financially, in erecting wolf-proof fences.

Mr. Farquhar said that by fencing in their pastures many farmers had managed to prevent destruction of their sheep. But, he pointed out, most farmers were not well enough off to meet the cost of such fencing, unless the Government was willing to "chip in" with grants.

The Manitoulin member drew a sorry picture of the dying out of the sheep-raising industry in his riding. The wolves have become so numerous, he said, that last year 52 farmers had disposed of their entire flocks of sheep,

rather than carry on and have them exterminated.

"Is the Government going to let Manitoulin's most profitable industry pass out of existence?" asked Mr. Farquhar, "and sit back and take the attitude that it is helpless to do anything to check the wolf menace?"

"What would you suggest?" asked the Prime Minister.

"I think an increased bounty would help some," replied Mr. Farquhar, "but that alone will not provide a solution to the problem."

Fencing, he thought, would meet the situation better than anything else.

Hon. John S. Martin, Minister of Agriculture, said that F. C. Wade, head of the Live Stock Branch, had conferred recently with various Manitoulin people, with a view to effecting, if possible, some scheme, whereby something could be done for the sheep and against the wolves.

WIDOW AND ORPHAN "BEER PROPOSITION" WILL BE PROTECTED UPHELD BY GRAVES BY NEW LEGISLATION

Proposed Measure Affects Cases Where They Are Neglected in Will

POWER GIVEN TO JUDGES

A measure to provide for the livelihood of widows and orphans in cases where the husband has willed away from them his personal estate was introduced in the Legislature by Premier Ferguson yesterday afternoon.

The bill, which is entitled the Widows and Orphans' Maintenance Act of 1928, makes possible an application before a Judge in Chambers of the Surrogate Court, and empowers the Judge to order an allowance from the estate up to the amount that the widow, or orphan, would be entitled to had the husband died intestate.

The principle of the proposal, said the Prime Minister, was not unheard of in the Legislature, for from time to time suggestion had been made, the thought of which was incorporated in the new bill. Modern methods of business, he noted, had resulted in new avenues of investment, and the character of the estates had changed. Formerly estates were largely made up of real estate, and the widow had protection through the Dowry Act, but in these modern times the bulk of an estate is often personal. Where the husband dies intestate the widow is entitled to her share, but husbands may will away the whole of their personal estates.

Thinks Principle Bad.

"Obviously," said Mr. Ferguson, "this has led to many cases of hardship. I believe that the principle is a bad one; and the day has come when we must do something to see to it that the wife and children should have some guarantee of sustenance during their lifetime."

"This bill provides that a widow or orphans, or the official guardian, may make application to a court in a proper case," he explained.

Sees Duty to Be Done.

"I realize that it is a serious matter to interfere with the last will and testament of a man, but it is our duty to see to it that widows and orphans have reasonable protection. Under the proper conditions the Judge may make such allowance from the estate as he decides necessary to give the wife and children proper maintenance."

The Premier's explanation of the measure was followed by approval from both sides of the House.

St. Catharines Member Sees Way to Kill Little Bootlegger

"Beer never hurt anybody," declared E. C. Graves (Conservative, St. Catharines) in the Legislature last night, declaring that he would support "a beer proposition" as a temperance move in the Province.

"Why," said he, "even if a man does get drunk on beer he's a happy intoxicant. You never heard of such a man killing anybody."

Mr. Graves stated that the L.C.A. was a real temperance measure, for it was killing the big bootlegger. "There is still the little bootlegger who sells after hours," he went on, "but check up on the permits and you get him."

"You can't," said he, "save the fifty or sixty or seventy year old drunkard. What we are trying to do is to save the young people. And there hasn't been a speaker here who, dealing with the Liquor Control Act, has suggested anything against the young people."

"I stand for temperance," said Mr. Graves. "I hope the liquor revenue decreases. And I believe that that is what this Government hopes. We should check up the permits to stop the little bootlegger, and educate the people in the ways of temperance."