

Tuesday, March 20th

WESTERN UNIVERSITY PRAISED BY PREMIER FOR FINANCING PLANS

Deprecates "No Contribution" Attitude of Toronto Toward U. of T.

SUPPLEMENTARIES P A S S

The Ontario Legislature yesterday put its O.K. on supplementary estimates totalling approximately \$5,000,000. In an hour and a half, the House approved all departmental votes save those of Public Works and Highways, Provincial Secretary's, Agriculture, and a "miscellaneous" vote of \$67,945.

Endorsation of the program, as far as it went yesterday, was comparatively free of discussion. Opposition interrogations regarding Hydro expenditures were the most numerous, and drew from Premier Ferguson a lengthy pronouncement on future plans for power development.

Commends Western.

The Prime Minister also spoke at some length on university grants, especially commending in this connection the spirit behind the campaign of the University of Western Ontario, London, to establish foundation and do its own financing in future and rather deprecating the "no contribution" attitude of the City of Toronto with regard to the maintenance of the University of Toronto. Barring these points of interrogation, the estimates had "easy sailing."

Attorney-General Price told the House that the \$10,000 set down for operation of his new "Security Frauds Prevention Act," was more or less guesswork, but that he would have more to say concerning its administration when the measure came before the House for second reading this afternoon. The \$10,000 vote, he said, was merely to set the machinery of the legislation in motion.

\$3,600 to Inspector.

Interrogation by E. Blake Miller (Liberal, East Elgin) of a \$3,600 vote for "Salary of Associate Principal," at the English-French Training School, Sturgeon Falls, drew from Premier Ferguson the admission that Inspector Lapensee, who was dismissed from the post of Bilingual Inspector in Essex County, was the man to whom this salary was to go.

"His temperament," said Mr. Ferguson, "didn't, perhaps, fit him for the work of an Inspector. We transferred him back to the teaching branch, and, needing a man at Sturgeon Falls, we put him there."

The Prime Minister explained that the \$300,000 grant to the University of Western Ontario was \$50,000 in advance of what had been given in the past. Western, said the Premier, had undertaken to consolidate its debt, to issue debentures, and to raise money to establish a foundation which would put it on its own feet, and make Government aid in future unnecessary.

To Lend Helping Hand.

But, he said, in view of the spirit with which Western had gone into its campaign for self-maintenance, the Government was prepared to lend a helping hand until the foundation was firmly established. In the very near future, he predicted, the university would be able to look after herself.

Further discussion of university estimates led Mr. Ferguson to point out that of the 5,200 students enrolled at the University of Toronto the great majority came from Toronto and the County of York. And yet, he said, the City of Toronto contributed nothing to the university. "All we get," he said, cynically, "is police and fire protection." This, he added, was one of the strong arguments for the establishment of higher training in the high schools and collegiate institutes. Education, he submitted, had to be carried to the people. There was a limit as to how far they would go after it.

Cottage Land Revenue.

Hon. William Finlayson, Minister of Lands and Forests, in speaking of the \$2,300 salary voted to the Collector of Provincial Land Tax, said there was great arrears of summer cottage land in unorganized territory, from which, up to a few years ago, the Government drew nothing in the way of revenue. Last year some \$75,000 had been paid into the Treasury from this source, and next year, he fancied, the amount would be more than doubled.

On a \$90,000 vote for "reforestation" purposes, Mr. Finlayson expressed the view that the plan of action in South-western Ontario and the more settled

communities was progressing very favorably.