

Premier's Research Legislation Termed an "Advertising Dodge"

Liberal Leader Sinclair Sees Attempt to Steal Glory From Federal Government, But Mr. Ferguson Says He Does Not Care Who Gets Credit for It

ADDRESS TO C.M.A. BROUGHT TO MIND

Premier Ferguson's bill to provide a research foundation in Ontario passed committee stage in the Legislature yesterday, but only after Liberal Leader William E. N. Sinclair had labelled it an "advertising dodge," designed primarily to steal the limelight from the Federal authorities at Ottawa.

Mr. Sinclair said the Government's proposal certainly was "ambitious," and he hoped it would be possible to put it in operation speedily, but he could not see why Queen's Park should take unto itself a lot of credit that rightfully belonged to the manufacturers of the Province. These manufacturers, he contended, were laying the "foundation" of the scheme, for, in accordance with the terms of the bill, they had first to spend so much money before the Government "chipped in" with its contribution.

Mutual Benefit Societies Affected by Amendment

Several additions to the Municipal Amendment Act were introduced in the Legislature last night by Attorney-General Price when this bill was dealt with in committee. With these added clauses the bill still stands to be reported.

One is an amendment to the Insurance Act providing that "mutual benefit societies, the membership of which is confined to railway employees, and which do not grant mortuary or funeral benefits," shall not be deemed insurers within the meaning of the act or required or entitled to be licensed as such.

Another addition to the bill empowers the Minister of Lands and Forests to enter into an agreement with the Spruce Falls Power and Paper Company and the Spruce Falls Company, Limited, accepting a bridge across the Kapuskasing River constructed by them.

Mr. Finlayson explained that the original Spruce Falls Company had an arrangement with the Government by which they were to build a bridge circular in design. Later the second company had come into being. At the same time Northern Development engineers had thought it better to run the road straight. This was done, but when the bridge was completed the company found that it did not conform to the original agreement, and this legislation was to allow the Government to accept the bridge, which was wanted by all parties.

Red Lake Railway Bill Withdrawn by Earngey

Joseph P. Earngey, Conservative member for Kenora, has withdrawn his "Red Lake Railway" bill. Mr. Earngey in former Premier Ferguson yesterday that the interests for whom he was sponsoring the measure had telephoned him to drop it.

The bill, it will be recalled, provided for the building into the Red Lake mining field of a common-carrier line from Kenora, costing approximately \$8,000,000. Legislative authority to form a company with a \$5,000,000 incorporation was to have been asked the House. E. W. Backus was one of the main figures behind the project. The road was to have been started in two years and completed in five.

C.M.A. Speech Recalled.

In the face of Premier Ferguson's speech to the Canadian Manufacturers' Association in December last, it was difficult, said Mr. Sinclair, to understand why the Prime Minister had brought down the bill at all this session. In his C.M.A. address the Prime Minister had declared that he would do nothing until he had consulted Ottawa as to how Hon. James Malcolm's "research policy" was coming along.

In reply, Mr. Ferguson said he was so interested in the scheme that he did not care who got the credit for it. For a long time, he said, he had been interested in the research work in the different universities. In 1916, as a Minister of the Crown, he had been instrumental, he admitted, in establishing research into minerals at the University of Toronto. Since then his interest in this field of endeavor had waned. Manufacturers of Ontario, he said, had been reluctant to contribute to the research work of the university, and had wanted "a voice of their own."

"Put up some money, I told them," declared the Prime Minister, "and we'll give you that voice."

"As for the Government looking for advertising," scoffed the Prime Minister, "this Government doesn't need to advertise."

SPORTS CONTRACTS ARE TO BE GUARDED

Attorney-General Introduces Amendment to Athletic Commission Act

An amendment to the Athletic Commission Act which gives the Commission absolute jurisdiction over all contracts and certificates in professional sport in the Province was introduced by Attorney-General Price in the Legislature last night.

The amendment provides that "a contract entered into for the management of any person to take part in a professional contest or exhibition of any sport or game, or for the taking part therein, shall not be valid or of any force or effect unless the same is in writing signed by the parties thereto and approved of as being fair and reasonable by certificate of the Commission under the hand of its Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary."

It is also provided that "the decision of the Commission as to granting or refusing such certificates shall be final and conclusive and shall not be open to question in any action or other proceeding in a court of law or otherwise."

PARK PLAN MOOTED FOR BORDER CITIES

Ontario Government Prepared to Dispose of Suitable Water-Lot Holdings

With a view to encouraging a development along the Border Cities waterfront similar to that to be seen now at Niagara Falls, the Ontario Government is prepared to turn over its extensive water-lot holdings in that district to the municipalities interested at a very low figure.

This, in effect, was the information supplied yesterday by Hon. William Finlayson, Minister of Lands and Forests, to a Windsor deputation, consisting of Mayor Cecil Jackson and J. Fred Reid, M.P.P. The Government is anxious, according to Mr. Finlayson, to see started on the Border Cities waterfront a beautification scheme that will parallel in attractiveness that at the Falls.

PREMIER'S SOLUTION IS TO NOTIFY PARENT FILM UNFIT FOR CHILD

Would Classify All Pictures as Universal or Adult

OPPOSES THOU SHALT NOT

Would Eliminate Compulsory Clause From Belanger Bill

The Ontario Government proposes, instead of adopting Aurelien Belanger's bill to classify films fit to be viewed by children and to prohibit children from viewing films not so classified, to institute a system of movie censorship similar to that in force in England. That is, the present Board of Censors will divide the movies into two groups, one "universal" and one "adult." All films, propaganda and advertising matter are to be stamped to tell the public whether they are fit to be viewed by youth and age alike or by adults only. The only compulsory part of the system is the stamping, and there is no provision, as in Mr. Belanger's amendment to the Theatre and Cinematograph Act, to prohibit children from seeing films designated as fit only for adults.

This Premier Ferguson made known in the Legislature last night, when in the final moments of the night session J. A. Pinard (Liberal, East Ottawa) inquired on behalf of Mr. Belanger, who was absent, as to when the Belanger amendment would come before the House for third reading.

Solution, Says Premier.

"I have a suggestion to make," said the Prime Minister, "a solution of the difficulties. There are many things to be said of the scheme, but the objectionable feature is that it declares 'Thou shalt not.' It is a suggestion whether we shall have class legislation and say to parents you shall not take your children to this show or that one."

The Censorship Department, said he, was permitted by regulations already passed to institute a system similar to that in effect in England. He went on to explain that there the films were 'stamped in two categories' as "universal" or "adult," and that this stamp appeared on films on all such propaganda as pamphlets, on advance notices and on advertisements in the press.

"This," he emphasized, "means a notice to all parents. And this, it seems, can be worked out under the regulations much more satisfactorily than arbitrary statutes."

Suggesting that the bill be withdrawn, he promised "the Government's undertaking" that the stamping system would be established.

Liberal members wanted to know what would become of the proposal in the bill to change the age limits at which a child could attend a show unaccompanied from 15 to 16 years. The Premier thought that the present age might stand until it was seen how the suggested scheme would work out here.

Attendance of Matrons.

He was, he declared, strongly in favor of anything that would protect the welfare of children in theatres, and he forecast that there would be more rigid regulations in respect to the attendance of matrons.