

Saturday - Feb. 16th.

by the Government as King's Counselors in 1928, 167 of whom had accepted the honor extended and received patents. Hon. George S. Henry, Minister of Highways, told D. M. Ross (Progressive, North Oxford) that \$23,650 was paid out to townships for weed-cutting under the Highway Improvement Act, last year—and \$24,856 to counties; that the cost of cutting on Provincial highways during the same period was \$111,077.46.

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## COMEDY OF ERRORS FOLLOWS CENSURE OF REPORT IN STAR

### North York M.P.P. Rises in House Not to Condemn, But to Correct

#### REMARKS MISCONSTRUED

The Ontario Legislature did not have to label any newspaper report as "false, slanderous and injurious" at yesterday's session, but it listened and laughed as its attention was directed to obvious and amusing errors in press chronicles of its proceedings.

Just before the Orders of the Day yesterday, P. W. Pearson, Liberal M.P.P. for North York, rose to bring to the attention of the House some newspaper reports. He reminded the members of The Star affair and of their condemnation. He wished to draw attention to a report of proceedings in the House on Thursday evening, and particularly of his own speech.

Several people in his audience imagined that he was going to bring before the House another glaring misstatement in The Star. For in The Star's noon edition yesterday its report of that Thursday night session told the public that it was Hon. W. D. Black, Speaker of the Assembly, who had ordered Mr. Pearson to retract a statement, whereas it was Hon. Joseph E. Thompson, who, in the absence of Mr. Black, occupied the Speaker's chair.

And in remedying this error the name of Hon. Mr. Black was chiselled out of the report. So the 5 o'clock edition read: "Speaker: Mr. Pearson you must accept the member's denial." This report was also further interesting because, according to House procedure, members are not referred to by name, but according to their ridings.

But no, this was not what Mr. Pearson had to bring to the attention of the House. Rather, he referred to a report in The Globe. In two leading articles in the issue he had been prominently and correctly referred to as the Liberal member from North York, but in a later paragraph in one of those articles after his name appeared in brackets, "Progressive, North Victoria."

#### Premier Laughs.

"So I suppose the member for North Victoria wants to repudiate it," interjected Premier Ferguson, laughing.

Mr. Pearson had another report to refer to, one contained in The Telegram's night edition of last Wednesday. Mr. Ferguson, on that afternoon, replying to remarks about the Ottawa Government, had said: "They are in a different position at Ottawa than we are. They are afraid down there; we're not." The Telegram report had attributed to the Premier the following statement: "Whatever was done at Ottawa I cannot help. They are tight down there."

Mr. Pearson read this to the House, and members burst into roars of laughter. Mr. Pearson suggested that such a report was "most improper." Mr. Ferguson, smiling, pointed out that the report was an obvious error; that his remarks had been misconstrued.

"Then," said Mr. Pearson, taking it that the word "tight" referred to the imbibition of liquids of alcoholic content, rather than the administration of pecuniary resources, "you didn't say they were drunk?"

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## QUIET DAY IN HOUSE SEES VARIOUS BILLS ADVANCED A STAGE

### Amendment to Jurors Act Proposes Advance in Age Limit

#### REPORT ON NEW K.C.'S

The Ontario Legislature made a quiet day of it yesterday, with half the benches unoccupied, with the legislative grist mill turning slowly, and with only a few Government answers to Opposition interrogations to indicate that the House can get into a talkative mood if it wants to.

Of the various bills advanced a stage toward enactment, Fred G. McBrien's amendment to the Municipal Act—an old friend, in new garments, the well-known and contentious Hawkers, Peddlers and Transient Traders Act with the hawkers and peddlers, end of it abandoned and contentiousness presumed removed—got second reading, but only after Premier Ferguson had explained that there was still some opposition to it, and that it had better go to Municipal Committee for consideration.

#### Another Bill Stands Over.

Another bill on which Mr. McBrien asked second reading—a bill which would amend the Assessment Act so as to deal with roadway facilities in North Toronto—was stood over on the suggestion of the Prime Minister, who pointed out that many municipalities had had a habit of bringing in general legislation to suit a particular locality. The Government would consider this bill, said Mr. Ferguson, and if it was found to be essentially a private bill, it should not be allowed to embarrass other municipalities, but should be added to the City of Toronto's bill.

Four Government orders—an act to amend the Provincial Aid to Drainage Act; an act to amend the Land Titles Act; an act to amend the Planning and Development Act; and an act to amend the Jurors Act—were passed by committee of the House.

Some discussion arose over the Jurors Act amendment, when Attorney-General Price stated that some Judges were opposed to the principle in the bill of raising the age limit of a juror from 60 to 65. On the other hand, he said, many Judges favored the idea.

Aurelien Belanger (Liberal, Russell) claimed there was no urgency — that there were plenty of jurors.

Hon. H. C. Nixon (Progressive, Brant County) took the opposite view, arguing that the raise in age was a good suggestion—that men at 65 years were just as capable of decision from a juror's standpoint as any man of 60. Pointing to his group Leader, John G. Lethbridge, he said: "No one in this House would suggest for a moment that my honorable friend here is incapable of sitting on a jury."

Some more private bills were introduced yesterday.

Attorney-General Price informed C. A. Robertson (Liberal, North Huron) that 206 barristers were recommended