

Tuesday - March - 5th.

GUARD IS SOUGHT AGAINST SILICOSIS IN GRANITE CUTTING

Preventive Measures Are
Indicated in God-
frey Bill

500 ENGAGED IN INDUSTRY

Hon. Dr. Forbes Godfrey's new bill, the Silcosis Act of 1929, which he introduced to the Legislature yesterday, aims through statutory regulations to guard the granite-cutting industry of the Province against silicosis.

There are at present in Ontario about 500 men engaged in this industry. Of these some 90, with 15 years or more experience in the industry, have been examined by the Industrial Hygiene Division of the Department of Health, and one-third of them have been found to have silicosis of a compensatable degree. Eleven others showed indications which will probably develop into compensatable silicosis within two years.

Silicosis is—and has been for three years—a compensatable occupational disease. Last year the granite cutters' industry assumed a capital obligation of \$65,000 with respect to this form of compensation. Commenting on his measure, yesterday, Dr. Godfrey said: "The operators now desire to deal with their present accumulation of silicosis, but they are also desirous of preventing their accumulation from becoming any larger. To accomplish this they are very anxious to have the preventive measures, indicated in the bill, introduced to the industry. Their fear is that if these preventive measures are not introduced silicosis will go on