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the latter including the amendment to the Power Commission Act and the Municipal Franchise Act, and the bill for the further protection of beaches.

The House in committee passed several measures which included the amendments to the Highway Traffic Act and the Extra Provincial Corporations Act.

The House was told yesterday afternoon by Attorney-General Price that there were 15,631 convictions for drunkenness during the fiscal year of 1928 and of this number 15,349 were men. He had been asked by an Opposition member how many arrests were made for drunkenness that year and as for that he stated that no information was available. He also stated that there was no information available as to arrests for drunkenness and conviction in the fiscal year of 1918.

The House also received the following information in replies to questions: \$20,227.75 for "Great Men."

The Province purchased and distributed 20,000 copies of "Great Men of Canada" among public and separate schools, collegiate institutes, high schools, continuation schools and vocational schools, training schools, teachers' institute libraries, departmental inspectors, public libraries and members of the Legislature. The cost was 96 cents per copy, which with wrapping and mailing cost made a total amount of \$20,227.75.

From November 1, 1907, to the end of October, 1918, 15,955 square miles of timber limits were leased by the Government. From November, 1918, to the end of October, 1924, the Government leased 13,284 square miles, and from that date until the end of last October an additional 17,744 square miles.

This makes a total of 47,013 square miles of timber limits leased by the Government since 1907.

The 250,000 illustrated tourists handbook of Ontario printed in colors with envelopes, also in colors last year, cost the Government \$20,210.50. Postage for same cost \$2,100.

"The makers of Canada," called the "Oxford encyclopaedia of Canadian history," published in a set of 12 volumes and distributed to the elementary and secondary schools of Ontario and the "Oxford course in Canadian history," consisting of 12 brochures on different phases of Canadian development, accompanied by maps and charts, cost the Government \$33,900 last year. Seven hundred and eighteen sets of each were distributed.

#### Fire Marshal's Assistants.

Attorney-General Price yesterday brought down an act to amend the Fire Marshal's Act. This new legislation would provide, among other things, that "whenever in any urban municipality a Fire Prevention Bureau has been established by order of the Council or where the Chief of the Fire Department of any urban municipality has assigned one or more members of the department to the duties of fire prevention officers, then and in all such cases the men constituting the Bureau, or those appointed by the Chief of the Fire Department, shall be 'Assistants to the Fire Marshal' and shall be possessed of

all the powers given to them under the Fire Marshal's Act."

By an amendment to the Infants' Act—also introduced to the House yesterday—the Attorney-General seeks to establish it law that wherever it may appear to the Judge of the Surrogate Court that default has been made in payment of money to an infant, the person in default may be summoned to explain; that where the person summoned does not appear, or sufficient reason for his absence is not given, an arrest may be ordered; and that where the person in default fails to satisfy that such default is due to inability to pay, imprisonment for three months or less may be given.

Colonel Price brought down a third bill—an act amending the Trust and Loans Corporation Act to the extent of giving this class of corporation the same power for investment purposes under a Provincial charter as they now have under Dominion incorporation.

In an amendment to the Public Utilities Act introduced yesterday by W. S. Welch (Conservative, North Waterloo), the City of Kitchener, asks permission to allow adjoining municipalities, townships, etc., the privilege of securing gas through the Commission.

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# HENRY AND SINCLAIR ARGUE AS FARMERS ON SLEIGH WIDTH ACT

## Liberal Leader Foresees Protests From Rural Sections

### SUPPORT OF ROADS BODY

Extensive debate in the Ontario Legislature yesterday afternoon, which involved dispute between Hon. George S. Henry, Minister of Public Works and Highways, and William E. N. Sinclair, Liberal Leader, as to which was the better farmer, was occasioned on second reading of the bill to establish the width of sleigh runners to conform with automobile tracks.

T. J. Mahoney (Conservative, South Wentworth), sponsor of the measure, emphasized that it was a bill strongly endorsed by the Ontario Good Roads Association. But Mr. Sinclair pictured it as one that worked a hardship on the farmers of the Province. And he declared that if the Government backed the measure, it would stir up protests in the rural sections which might effect the unseating of the Government in the next election. In fact Mr. Sinclair told the Government that so far as this bill was concerned now was the time "to use the axe." He wanted Mr. Henry, leading the Government in the absence of Premier Ferguson, "to say that this is not a bill to clutter up committee."

But Mr. Henry believed that the principle of Mr. Mahoney's bill should receive the Governments endorsement. He knew of a great demand for something along the lines of this measure. And, he added, he had been talking to "the housewives of North York" and knew that they would back this proposed legislation.

#### Date Could Be Changed.

As it stands the bill provides that the change in runner widths go into effect on Dec. 1, 1929. Mr. Mahoney agreed that if this was considered "too soon" the committee could change the

date. Another proposal was that the bill to be amended so that it will not affect existing cutters but only future manufacture. But on this latter point Mr. Henry declared, "It would take us a generation or two to get rid of the narrow sleighs."

Mr. Sinclair told the House that the present width of runners conformed with the hitching of a team of horses. But Mr. Henry wanted to say that horses could be hitched to conform with the width of the vehicle and he referred particularly to the use of wagons. "And I want to tell the honorable member," said he to Mr. Sinclair, "that I have driven a wagon more miles than he. And this just shows that he's not a lawyer but spends his time in a law office."

"Well," said Mr. Sinclair, "my father was only a poor man on a farm, but I've driven horses and know how they are hitched."

#### Fair to Every One.

Mr. Henry went on to say that only last week a roads convention urged some legislation such as that in Mr. Mahoney's bill and for the Government he said that it should go on to committee where an attempt could be made to draft something that would be fair to every one.

So the bill was given second reading.

Second reading was given to several private bills and Government measures.