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Premier Prefers Word "Husband"; Liberal Leader Says "Widower"

Legislature in Committee Perplexed Over Change in Title of Bill to Make Better Provision for Widows and Orphan Children

The question of when is a husband not a husband came before the Ontario Legislature yesterday afternoon in a funereal form.

Recently Premier Ferguson introduced a bill "to make better provision for widows and orphan children." But since then it has dawned on the Government that there should be some consideration of the widower or surviving husband who is a legatee of the widow or deceased wife's estate.

So yesterday when the bill came along the House in committee revised many sections and even changed the title, so that it is now to make better provision for widows, husbands and orphans of deceased persons.

But when the committee came to consider the phraseology of the bill, members wondered as to the choice of

words. Should it be "husband," "surviving husband" or "widower."

"Some would say that the man was not a husband if the wife was dead," was one observation.

Liberal Leader Sinclair thought that "widower" was a good old word that everybody understood.

However, Premier Ferguson doubted if "widower" carried the same legal interpretation as "husband," so in his revisions of the bill he preferred the use of the word "husband."

But the House may still have another word to say on the question, for, while accepting the revisions, it may still consider the bill when it is reprinted.