

"By Order-in-Council"

Premier Ferguson's Election Act amendment, requiring a \$200 deposit from candidates in future Provincial elections, will not be effective from prorogation of the present House, but will be proclaimed by Order-in-Council when, in the opinion of the Government, sufficient public opinion has developed behind it to warrant proclamation.

In a brief statement to the Legislature yesterday, the Prime Minister revealed that several deputations from labor had interviewed him recently in regard to the legislation.

"They thought," he added, "that sufficient public opinion had not been developed. Eventually, we agreed that the clause would not be proclaimed until the Legislature had a chance to discuss it again, next session."

TOTAL APPLICATIONS FOR OLD-AGE RELIEF REVEALED AS 28,214

Questions on Stock Cases and Elections Also Asked in House

HYDRO COST SUPPRESSED

That 28,214 applications for old-age pensions had been made in Ontario since the Act came in force was the information given to the House yesterday by Hon. Dr. Forbes Godfrey. Of these 27,004 applications were passed and pensions granted, he stated.

These statements came to the House in reply to Opposition questions, as did the following information:

No Names Given.

Attorney-General Price stated that the Department of National Revenue has sent additional reports to him since the Homer L. Gibson report. This added information was received on Jan. 31 last. To the question as to what firms were mentioned, he replied: "As prosecutions of the principals of these firms and companies are still before the courts, their names need not be given."

Hon. William Finlayson stated that wholesale houses and merchants were given an opportunity of quoting prices when the quantity of goods purchased by the Department of Northern Development was large enough. He also stated that the Bakus interests developed an average of 14,000 horsepower at Fort Frances, and around 14,400 on the Seine River.

Election Officials.

The House was also informed that J. W. Millar, Acting Superintendent of Algonquin Park, was a Deputy Returning Officer during the last Provincial election. D. McKeekin, temporary ranger of Algonquin, was poll clerk, it was also stated, and the poll was held in Millar's office. The men were paid for that service, but no money was given for the use of the office, the House was told.

Premier Ferguson stated that at the close of the last fiscal year, 2,066 people were employed inside the Government, and 4,901 outside.

In reply to a question as to the average cost of production of one horsepower by the Ontario Hydro-Electric Commission, the Government replied that it was not in the public interests to give the information, as it might give advantage to competitors. He said that 652,621,833 kilowatt hours were purchased last year.