

Feb 17

# OPPOSITION ATTACK IS PROMISED SEQUEL OF PEACEFUL SITTING

Three Important Bills Intro-  
duced in 25 Minutes  
Yesterday

## SINCLAIR WILL LEAD OFF

Yesterday's brief and peaceful sitting of the Legislature promises to be followed today by a session of spirited debate in which the Government will be verbally attacked from Opposition benches, and defended from the Administration's side of the House by Premier Henry himself.

Twenty-five minutes was long enough to dispose of the business of the House yesterday. It marked, however, the introduction of three important bills. Two of these bills were introduced by Fred G. McBrien, M.P.P. (Toronto-Brockton), and are sponsored by the City of Toronto. One bill provides for an amendment to the Assessment Act, which would empower Toronto to exact a business tax from the Royal York Hotel, which is at present exempt from this tax by reason of the fact that it is a railway hotel. The other bill introduced by Mr. McBrien is one to amend the Municipal Act; this amendment would allow Toronto to spend \$30,000 yearly on receptions, entertainments, travelling expenses, etc., in place of the former limit of \$20,000 allowed for cities of over 200,000 population. Similar expenses for other cities would be graded as follows: Over 100,000 population, \$20,000; over 50,000 population, \$10,000; over 20,000 population, \$2,500; over 10,000 population, \$1,000; counties, \$1,500, and other municipalities, \$500.

A bill to unify the law respecting the assignment of book debts was given second reading. Attorney-General Price explained that the bill followed a recommendation of a committee of the Canadian Bar Association, and its purpose was to make the various Provincial laws respecting assignment of book debts as nearly uniform as possible; the better to protect those who made loans on the security of book debts.

In the absence of W. E. N. Sinclair, House Leader of the Liberal Opposition, Premier Henry explained that certain other bills would not be introduced yesterday. Dr. George A. McQuibban led the Liberal Opposition yesterday. Mr. Sinclair was suffering from a cold, but it is expected he will be in his place in the House today.

Today is Leaders' day in the debate on the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. Mr. Sinclair will lead off, followed by Hon. Harry C. Nixon, Progressive Leader, and Premier Henry. Whether there will be a night sitting will depend on the length of the speeches, which, however, are expected to be comparatively brief.