

# \$96,000 Payment Is Ontario's Share Of Big Ottawa Span

## Provincial Premiers and Representatives of Federal Government Will Officiate at Opening of Hawkesbury - Grenville Bridge

### SUPPLEMENTARIES TOTAL \$10,482,627

Along with Premier Taschereau of Quebec and representatives of the Dominion Government, Premier George S. Henry of Ontario will, it is understood, officiate at the spring-scheduled opening of the new Hawkesbury-Grenville interprovincial bridge over the Ottawa River.

Arrangements for the bridge's construction were agreed to last summer, and the work on it is now being rushed rapidly to completion. With the arrival of mild weather the floors will be laid and the formal opening staged.

Ontario's contribution to the structure amounts to \$96,000, it became known for the first time yesterday, with the presentation to the Legislature of the Supplementary Estimates for the current fiscal year. The Province of Quebec will pay a similar amount, and the balance of the cost will be borne by the Dominion Government.

#### Over 1,200 Feet in Length.

The new bridge is over 1,200 feet in length, has a 30-foot roadway and six-foot sidewalks, and is designed to take care of the 90-mile gap on the Ottawa that formerly existed between the City of Ottawa and the bridge at Vaudreuil. Its completion will, it is understood, improve road traffic conditions immeasurably.

The supplementaries tabled yesterday aggregated \$10,482,627.10. By departments the votes are as follows: Prime Minister's, \$930,000; Attorney-General's, \$177,850.15; Insurance, \$5,300; Education, \$2,212,837; Lands and Forests, \$350,240; Mines, \$274,615; Game and Fisheries, \$126,900; Public Works, \$2,452,861.77; Highways, \$51,350; Health, \$691,975; Labor, \$15,740.63; Public Welfare, \$2,724,800; Provincial Treasurer's, \$24,825; Provincial Auditor's, \$5,000; Provincial Secretary's, \$147,154.75; Agriculture, \$273,177.80, and miscellaneous, \$18,000.

Under the Mines Department, a vote of \$232,000 is asked to provide for the cost of the erection and equipment of an extension to the Mining Building at the University of Toronto; Public Works asks an additional vote of \$350,000 toward the new East Block section of the Parliament Buildings. Erection of a new dairy barn in connection with the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph involves a vote of \$12,000. The Chief Director of Hospital Services of the Province, Dr. B. T. McGhie, is voted a salary of \$10,000 in the Health estimates.

#### Soldiers' Aid Change.

Votes under the new Department of Welfare reveal that the Soldiers' Aid Commission, formerly under the jurisdiction of Attorney-General William F. Price, will, in future, come under the jurisdiction of Hon. William G. Martin. Indication of the appointment of Deputy Minister of Public Works, with

a salary of \$4,400, is also to be had from the same votes.

A vote of \$10,000 is asked by the Agriculture Department toward the establishment of the seed-cleaning plants which Hon. T. L. Kennedy expects to have in operation at an early date in this Province as an aid to the farmer and the agricultural industry in general.

Cleaning of townsites and removal of fire hazards calls for an additional vote to the Lands and Forests Department under Hon. William Finlayson of an additional vote of \$80,000. For fire-rangings and purchase of equipment and supplies for the coming spring and summer fire hazard in the North the same department asks an additional vote of \$250,000.

## OPTOMETRISTS SEEK TO OBTAIN MONOPOLY, COMMITTEE IS TOLD

### People in Outlying Districts Said to Depend on Mail Order

### AMENDMENTS ARE ARGUED

Charges that optometrists were seeking to obtain a monopoly on the sale of eyeglasses "just as iniquitous as the A.B.C. combine" were made by Hamilton Cassels at a meeting of the Special Committee of the Legislature appointed to consider amendments to the Optometry Act at the Parliament Buildings yesterday.

The amendments govern the sale of glasses by mail order and the use in such selling of mechanical instruments by which the purchaser measures or tests his own eyesight.

Mr. Cassels, representing a firm which does a large mail-order business in eyeglasses and sends an eye-tester to the prospective client, declared that the amendments "cloaked in technicalities an effort to obtain a monopoly in the sale of an article of merchandise." Many people in outlying districts, he said, had to depend on the mail-order houses for eyeglasses and would suffer if this source of supply were cut off.

#### Hold Another Meeting.

Hon. Dr. J. M. Robb, Minister of Health, presided at the committee. It was decided to hold another meeting at a date to be arranged with a view to clearing up the effect of the amendments.

Both Mr. Cassels and Edward Lazaresco, representing another firm dealing in glasses by mail, affirmed that the effect of the amendments would be to create a monopoly for some 600 optometrists in the Province, only about forty of whom had graduated from the prescribed course. Mr. Cassels compared the proposed provisions to a law requiring people to consult a lawyer before signing agreements or one com-

elling them to see a doctor before buying castor oil.

J. Earl Lawson, M.P., and Colonel J. Keiller MacKay, representing the Optometry Board, supporting the amendments, declared that the aim of the clauses was to prevent organizations misleading the public into believing that they could test their own eyes. A man unable to read or write, said Colonel MacKay, had been engaged as an agent by one mail-order house in one Eastern Ontario city. Mr. Lawson emphasized that the object of the amendments was to prevent mail-order houses from prescribing by misleading customers into the belief that they could test their own eyes.

#### Hard to Get Refunds.

Police and customs authorities, he asserted, could tell the committee of difficulties encountered by customers in getting refunds for their money. If Ontario passed these amendments, all Provinces would have optometry acts "with teeth," he said. In that case, he felt that the Dominion would prohibit the use of the mails.

H. Fairclough, representing his own mail-order concern, was told by the committee that there was no objection to his present custom of sending eye-test cards, such as are used by opticians, to out-of-town customers.

The amendments to the act were introduced by A. E. Honeywell (Conservative, Ottawa North).

Prior to discussion of these amendments, J. C. James, representing the College of Physicians and Surgeons, urged the committee to insert a clause prohibiting optometrists using the word doctor. It was stated that this is already provided in the Medical Act, and is forbidden by resolution of the Optometry Board. Another amendment urged by Mr. James was to prohibit the use of drugs by optometrists in testing eyes.