

## AMENDMENT SEEKS SURTAX ON INCOMES EXCEEDING \$10,000

George Shields Explains Scale, at Bill's First Reading

### QUESTIONS ARE ASKED

Introduced by George Shields (Cons., Woodbine), the bill to amend the Assessment Act so as to allow a surtax for incomes of more than \$10,000 finally reached the Legislature yesterday, and was given its first reading. The amendment is sought by the City of Toronto, Mayor Stewart having opposed the principle.

When Mr. Shields rose to introduce the bill, several members smilingly inquired: "What is it?" Mr. Shields smiled in return. W. E. N. Sinclair, Liberal House Leader, then rose and asked: "Would you mind telling us what it is about?" and wanted to know if there was anything in it that would affect him. Again a number of the honorable members laughed.

Mr. Shields—I assumed that the honorable member from Ontario South read the newspapers. He would have seen something about it there. I had hoped that this bill would be left over until its second reading for discussion, but, if it is desired, I can explain it now.

He then read the scale, the surtax on incomes from \$10,000 to \$20,000 being 3 per cent.; \$20,000-\$30,000, 4 per cent.; \$30,000-\$40,000, 5 per cent.; \$40,000-\$50,000, 6 per cent.; \$50,000-\$100,000, 7 per cent.; \$100,000-\$150,000, 8 per cent.; \$150,000-\$200,000, 9 per cent.; and \$200,000 and over, 10 per cent. "That is the one I am interested in," smiled Mr. Sinclair, as the last amount was read.

The House then agreed with Mr. Shields, and left further discussion over until the second reading of the bill comes up.

## Law Seeks Check On Trial by Jury

Proposed legislation to take away the right of trial by jury in all actions against public bodies was brought before the Ontario Legislature yesterday in a notice of motion by Arthur Ellis (Conservative, Ottawa South). Mr. Ellis is seeking an amendment to the Judicature Act, and would have suits for damages tried before a Judge when they are defended by a municipal corporation, board of police commissioners or public utility commissions, such as publicly owned radial lines or hydro.

## CHANGES ARE MADE IN SECURITIES ACT BY NEW LEGISLATION

Companies Law Will Also Conform With Federal Regulations

Amendments to the Securities Act and to the Companies Act will be brought down at the present session of the Legislature to bring these acts more into uniformity with the Federal regulations, Attorney-General W. H. Price informed the House yesterday in reply to an inquiry of W. E. N. Sinclair, Liberal House Leader. Just now far these amendments would go, he was not prepared to state.

"I have had some inquiries and I would like to ask if it is the intention to make any amendments to the Securities Act at the present session. There is some interest being taken in the matter," said Mr. Sinclair.

"At the Dominion-Provincial conference at Ottawa there was some discussion as to the working out of the Securities Act," replied Mr. Price. "It was thought that, while it might stand fairly well in its principle, it might be wise to have more uniform companies legislation, so that the Dominion and various Provincial acts might be brought into greater uniformity, and that the forms returned might be the same, and in this way cut down materially the work of those who look after companies.

"There will be some amendments to the Securities Act, but they will depend on how much can be put in the Companies Act. Whether they can all be made uniform, I cannot at present say. It depends on what the Federal authorities get ready in time."

Interest Included as Well as Principal, It Is Explained Definitely—Taxes May Have to Be Paid

## SEATS ALLOTMENT NOT YET DEBATED

Definite assurance that the extended moratorium proposed by the Henry Government would include interest on mortgages on homes, and that the new enactments would be retroactive to Jan. 1, 1933, was given by Attorney-General Price last night after a three-and-one-half-hour caucus of Conservative Cabinet Ministers and members at Queen's Park.

Many details of proposed legislation to amend the Municipal Act as studied by the special Out-of-Session Committee were also debated and explained by Hon. William Finlayson, the committee's Chairman.

The mooted changes to the Mortgagors' and Purchasers' Act will now be combined in the bill by Colonel Price and, he said, suggestions made by several members taken care of in so far as possible. The bill will then reach the House, where a further extended discussion will also take place in Committee of the Whole.

"Is the principle of the bill agreed upon?" The Globe asked of Colonel Price. "Oh, yes," he replied, "that was decided by Mr. Henry when he announced the legislation in December."

"Will the amendments include moratorium covering interests on mortgages?" "Yes; that is the intention of the legislation," the Attorney-General stated.

Asked if taxes would have to be paid by the mortgagor in order that he would benefit by the bill, Colonel Price said: "There will be certain carrying charges which would have to be taken care of."

The night fully attended caucus listened patiently to varied views expressed by individual members, and, it is understood, many opposed the measure, although reluctant to do so from a humanitarian point of view.

Colonel Price, who is leading the Government in the absence of Premier Henry, stated that the question of redistribution was not discussed. A special caucus will be called on Friday or next Monday when Mr. Henry will be present to head the debate on this contentious legislation.