

March 8.

DELUGE OF QUERIES REFER TO PORTRAIT OF HON. W. D. ROSS

If Painted, by Whom and
How Much? Inquires
W. D. Medd

ACTION ON PRIVATE BILLS

Did the Government have a portrait of Hon. W. D. Ross, former Lieutenant-Governor, painted, and, if so, what artist did the work, inquires W. G. Medd (Progressive, Huron South) in a question placed on the order paper of the Legislature yesterday. This question follows those made by the same member previously with respect to the portrait of Hon. G. Howard Ferguson.

But in this question the Progressive member goes further. He wants to know if the work was given out by an Order-in-Council, or upon instructions from a Minister; if other artists were given an opportunity of competing for the work; and, if a Minister ordered it, did he have an estimate of the total cost? What was the total cost to the Province of having the portrait painted and hung, and what was the cost of painting and hanging the portrait of each of the three preceding Lieutenant-Governors? he also asks.

In a series of questions the same member wants to know what are the salaries of the chief executive officers of the Ontario Hydro-Electric Commission, when they received their last increase in salary, and what it amounted to.

The Private Bills Committee of the Legislature declined to agree to a bill proposed by the City of Peterboro' whereby an Alderman who wished to contest the Mayoralty would have to resign his Aldermanic office first. The bill is to be redrafted. The committee approved the change in the names of two Ottawa institutions. The St. Patrick's Asylum is to be known as the "St. Patrick's Home of Ottawa," and Les Reverends Peres Oblats de L'Immaculee Conception de Marie will in the future be called "Les Missionnaires Oblats de Marie Immaculee."

Agreements entered into by the Algoma Steel Corporation and the transferral of certain mortgages of the company from a United States company to the Toronto General Trusts Corporation were approved in a private bill sponsored by Hon. James Lyons, Sault Ste. Marie. Whitby will now be able to assume certain lands outside the municipality, but owned by the Township of Whitby, under another bill which was approved.

The committee deleted a clause from a Port Arthur bill which would have given that city power to issue separate debentures for local improvements. Another clause is to replace the one which would have enabled the city to hypothecate sinking fund securities to avoid loss on sales.

A bill confirming tax sales and validating certain debentures of the Township of Teck was given endorsement. Kirkland Lake is situated in this township.