

'ROMAN' TO REMAIN IN CATHOLIC TITLE, SO MEMBERS HEAR

Bishop of Hamilton's Bill to Have Controversial Clause Removed

DICTIONARIES HUNTED

The Corporation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Hamilton will forego its claim to be called the Corporation of the Catholic Diocese of Hamilton, and thus will silence a controversy that has aroused Protestantism in Hamilton and had repercussions in the Orange Order throughout Western Ontario.

This information on a highly controversial question was received yesterday from an authoritative source. A month ago the Diocese petitioned the Ontario Legislature for power to borrow money, and also to drop the word "Roman" from its title. These changes required a private bill in the Provincial Legislature, and this bill was sponsored by Argue Martin, Conservative member for Hamilton West. On Monday, when the private bill received first reading, Mr. Martin was absent, and the motion was put by E. J. Murphy of Toronto.

Deletion of the word "Roman" was protested by almost every Protestant faith in Hamilton. The ancient controversy as to what was the "Catholic" Church was renewed, and Protestants saw the move as a direct blow at their faiths. Bishop McNally of Hamilton Diocese, said in reply, that the change was proposed merely to shorten an unwieldy title.

The argument settled down to dictionary meanings of the word "catholic." As an adjective, and spelled with a small "c," it means no more than "universal"; raised to the rank of noun, but still with small "c," it is defined as: "A person who belongs to the universal Christian church." But as soon as the initial is capitalized, it becomes: "A member of a Catholic church; specifically, a member of the Roman Catholic Church; a Roman Catholic."

The bill will follow its normal course from the House to the Private Bills Committee; there Conservatives were ready to eliminate the title-change, and leave it a request for authorization to borrow money. One Protestant and Western Ontario M.P.P. saw the borrowing as the root of the whole matter. The diocese, he said, recently faced with the need of financing extensive building, must float a bond issue which would attract protestant investors more strongly if the word "Roman" were eliminated.

Settling the whole matter, it was learned yesterday that the controversial clause of the bill would be dropped. The diocese's title will be a matter for the Private Bills Committee to decide.

Ontario Overdraft Without Note Issue

Two Government bills were introduced at yesterday's session of the Legislature. On motion of Premier Henry, the Provincial Loans Act would be amended to permit, it was explained, the Government to have a bank overdraft without issuance of Treasury notes. This was said to be common practice with other Governments, and would facilitate Provincial financing. Attorney-General Price, in an amendment to the Juvenile Courts Act, frowns on the title "Domestic Relations Court," now applied to tribunals in the larger cities. Under the amendment, the name would be changed to "Family Court."