

# PRICE IS DEFENDER OF ONTARIO RIGHTS

## Again Introduces Bill Re- garding Insurance Regulations

### HENRY ANSWERS QUERIES

Hon. W. H. Price produced the only break in yesterday's 16-minute Legislative session by his second exposition in three days of Dominion and Provincial constitutional powers. Addressing a nearly empty chamber, the Attorney-General directed his attention to Provincial insurance regulation in connection with the second reading of the bill to amend the Insurance Act.

#### To Maintain Rights.

This bill, generally known as the Temporary Provisions Act, has been passed annually, the Attorney-General explained, so that the Provincial rights confirmed by the Privy Council will not fall into abeyance. Ironing out of definite jurisdictional rights has been delayed "in order to co-operate at a time when the stability of the insurance companies means so much," but Colonel Price stated that the Province had made headway, both at Ottawa and in co-operation with the other Provinces. He summed up the bill as the "placing before the House again of the principle confirmed by the Privy Council that the House has the right to regulate insurance."

Four Opposition questions answered by Premier Henry aroused no comment. The Civil Service Commissioner's salary was named as \$6,000, less deductions; the expense of his department has approximated \$15,000 annually and has been slightly reduced in recent years, and his jurisdiction includes Sheriffs and certain guards, jailers and nurses.

#### Expenses of Tour.

The tour of the Western Provinces made by the Budgeting Committee cost \$804.64, and members received no extra remuneration, the Premier stated in answer to another query. Advertising, pamphlets and publicity had cost the Tourist and Publicity Bureau sums ranging from \$90,336 in 1929 to \$37,156 in 1933, the Premier said in reference to a third question. The salary of the Director, C. C. Hele, is limited to the \$4,000, less deductions, which he receives as General Secretary of the department, and travelling expenses amounted to \$100 or \$200 annually. The staff of the bureau were paid salaries ranging from \$2,400 downward.

In answer to a question regarding the amount of the Provincial highway portion of the debt retirement sinking fund, Mr. Henry stated that the temporarily suspended debt retirement scheme covered the Provincial debt as a whole, and is not earmarked according to the nature of the capital.

One new bill, an act to amend the Loans Act, was introduced by the Premier and Colonel Price. This bill involves the validation of technicalities encountered with Provincial overdrafts. By another resolution, the Legal Bills (McCaughrin) Committee was granted permission to sit during House sessions.