

# GOVERNMENT ACTS AGAINST LITERATURE OF VICIOUS NATURE

## Finlayson Asks Toronto Member to Withdraw Measure to License Libraries in View of Control Proposed

### TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR FORESTATION

Rental of forbidden books, reported to be widely prevalent among lending libraries of the larger cities, will be prevented under legislation now in preparation by the Ontario Government. Yesterday in the Legislature Hon. William Finlayson suggested that F. G. McBrien, Toronto Conservative, withdraw his Municipal Act amendment, in view of the forthcoming measure.

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#### Dispensed Daily.

Mr. Finlayson said it was common knowledge that "objectionable" literature was dispensed daily from many rental libraries, and that legislation was required to check the practice. Mr. McBrien had proposed licensing all such libraries, with a fee of perhaps \$2 a year, and the Government had some such control method in view.

Subsequent inquiries revealed that at many Toronto libraries books of the forbidden class were kept off the shelves, but were available to customers at triple the regular rate or an even higher rental.

A bill to clarify tax-exemption privileges granted to farmers setting aside woodland for forestation purposes was introduced for second reading by David M. Ross (Progressive, Oxford North). Mr. Ross stated that farmers of his locality had been denied the exemption because they culled timber for firewood and tapped the maples. Hon. William Finlayson expressed approval of the amendment, calling such distinctions absurd, and promising to support the measure in committee.

The amendment giving the municipalities right to assess and collect income taxes in a single year was introduced by Mr. McBrien, and, after a mention of past obstacles, also approved in principle by Mr. Finlayson. The Minister remarked that the municipalities have lost a great deal of money because taxpayers moved or became insolvent.

#### Office Qualifications.

Another change in the Municipal Act in regard to municipal office qualifications in towns in unorganized territory was sponsored by W. H. Elliott (Conservative, Rainy River). Mr. Finlayson expressed doubts as to the feasibility of requiring both candidate and nominator to be qualified residents of the one ward, but the bill was sent on to committee.

A series of questions answered by the Government revealed that the cost of the Hydro inquiry had been \$30,158, and that the estate of Mr. Justice Orde had received \$5,000 as remuneration. To Mr. Justice Riddell and to Mr. Justice Sedgewick \$1,500 was paid, and no remuneration was paid to Mr. Justice Middleton.

The answer to another query included the information that the total cost of drainage on Highway No. 19, between Woodstock and Tavistock, had been \$13,980. The drainage was part of a larger contract. On this same stretch three property owners received pay of \$75 each after the road was taken over by the Province.

In the absence of Premier Henry, Hon. W. H. Price led the Government during the session.

## INFORMATION ASKED ON PARK RANGERS

### Liberal Whip Queries Hydro Contracts in Nipigon Region

Pursuing his investigation into Forests Department matters, T. P. Murray (Liberal, Renfrew North) at yesterday's Legislature session called for a return showing all dismissals and superannuations of Algonquin Park rangers since 1930. On another tack he asks the Government the residence and occupation of H. S. Pierce, "who received burial fees from Cobourg hospital."

Liberal Whip C. A. Robertson inquires of the Government what contracts for primary and secondary power have been entered into by the Hydro Commission from the Nipigon developments with the paper industry.

Progressive Leader Nixon filed a string of questions concerning the Minimum Wage Board. He wants from the Government information concerning the board's personnel and their allowances. Further he asks, are the members full-or part-time workers, and, if the latter, what are their regular occupations?

A series of queries regarding appointment of the Lindsay Sheriff was entered by William Newman (Liberal, Victoria North). W. J. Bragg, Durham County Liberal, sought information concerning F. E. Titus's service with the Government.