

March 19

Coded Regulations Aim of Queen's Park

Roebuck Plans Simplification—Milk Control Statutes Studied

Attorney-General Arthur Roebuck believes that Queen's Park regulations should be simplified and collected, and he intimated yesterday that such work was in progress.

At the same time, in the course of an "Order-in-Council Government" debate in the Legislature, Hon. Harry C. Nixon stated that the Government proposes to translate certain Milk Control Board regulations into statutes.

Nixon Chided.

Wilfrid Heighington again precipitated the question and, aside from these two concessions, received the same answer from the Government benches: sympathy, but no possibility of immediate action. Whereupon former Premier Henry entered the conflict, to give the Provincial Secretary (Mr. Nixon) a good-natured raking.

"I've been sitting here with a great deal of pleasure," said Mr. Henry, as the Government again declined, with regret, to accept a motion which would very slightly qualify their regulation-making powers.

"I'm an optimist," the former Premier continued, as the House chuckled. "I have been sitting here watching the face of the Provincial Secretary. He sits quietly agreeing to a section going through that he fought for many years."

Mr. Henry predicted that Mr. Nixon wouldn't bring in a bill without provisions for Orders-in-Council.

Other Days Recalled.

Mr. Nixon said he had never known the former Premier to bring in one without similar provision.

"And you are learning the necessity of it," said Mr. Henry, "and the folly of all your criticism for fifteen years."

"I am glad if my honorable friend gets happiness out of viewing my face," answered Mr. Nixon. There was an allusion to "faces that only a mother could love."

Down to seriousness, the Provincial Secretary recalled that, in his opinion, Mr. Ferguson in particular had offended by regulation clauses.

"All that he wanted was a skeleton bill."

Query on Heenan Jr. Called "Despicable"

Premier Mitchell F. Hepburn in the Ontario Legislature yesterday branded as "despicable" a question placed on the order paper by William Duckworth (Conservative, Dovercourt), asking if Peter Heenan Jr., secretary to his father, the Minister of Lands and Forests, had received any fees or commission on insurance placed by the department.

"The answer, of course, is 'No,'" declared the Premier, heatedly, "but I regard the insinuation as despicable."

POLICE BILL PASSES SECOND READING

Vote Is 54 to 15 in Favor

A PARTY-LINE division and one more hour of debate carried the "emergency police director" bill over the second-reading hurdle at Queen's Park yesterday.

To the last moment Conservatives continued their objections, and gained the single ballot of the C.C.F. Party when they forced the vote. At the same time Queen's Park key men were in receipt of a Toronto letter expressing official City of Toronto dissent.

The Government's victory was by 54 to 15.

Mr. Speaker had asked the Opposition if they wanted a standing vote.

"No, we want a polled vote," was former Premier Henry's reply. An unusually quiet division brought no more than an attempt at desk-thumping, even when Sam Lawrence (C.C.F., Hamilton East) stood with the Opposition.

The City of Toronto letter of dissent was signed by City Solicitor C. M. Colquhoun, on instructions of the Board of Control.

The letter suggested opposition to control over a municipal police force and promised co-operation in any emergency. This, it was stated, could be arranged on application to the Chief Constable or Police Commissioners "without the necessity for such legislation."

Just before the division, Hon. George Challies secured an indefinite answer from the Attorney-General when he asked if the Chief Constables' Association had favored the bill.

"I have had," Mr. Roebuck answered, "a number of communications from Chiefs in favor of the bill and none opposed."

Stringer Retained, Legislature Told

Despite many reports to the contrary, Chief Inspector William Stringer of the Ontario Provincial Police has not been dismissed from that post. This was the definite information contained in an answer to a question tabled in the Ontario Legislature yesterday. Another answer revealed that no new appointments had been made in the criminal investigation branch of the force since the present Administration took office.

Succession Duty Is \$1,099,514 in Arrear

In reply to a question tabled in the Legislature by former Premier George S. Henry, it was reported yesterday that the amount of succession duty not collected at the end of October, 1934, was \$1,099,514, this being chiefly because of the depressed condition of the real estate market. The uncollected amount under the Corporation Tax Act at the same date stood at \$805,000. The chief reason for this was that a number of corporations have ceased to function or gone into liquidation, and are unable to pay.