

LIQUOR CASES SAID TO CARRY ADVERTISING

One Company Favored, Claims Tory in Attack on Liquor Board

ONE liquor company had been allowed the privilege of placing advertising stickers on cases of their products being distributed from store to customer, Colonel T. A. Kidd, Conservative member for Kingston, told the Legislature yesterday in the course of an attack on administration of the Liquor Control Board.

Producing an adhesive strip from his pocket, the Kingston member displayed its red-printed inscription, "Spey Royal." These stickers, he said, were placed on the cartons before they were sent out from the Picton liquor store, while all other brands were not permitted to bear any label-brand on the wrapping.

"Absolute Power."

This, said Colonel Kidd, was typical of the way the affairs of the Liquor Control Board were being managed under "one-man control," by means of which, he said, Chairman Edmond Odette "can do anything he likes—allow one brand to advertise and not another, and do things for his own friends." He pleaded for removal of "absolute power" from one man's hands.

Colonel Kidd's ninety-minute speech in the debate on the Budget included a charge that Ontario, under the Liberal regime, had become "a lawyers' paradise." Since Mr. Hepburn took office, he said, independent counsel had been retained in various advisory capacities and as Commission counsel, to a total cost to the taxpayers of \$122,389.75.

Defense of the Government, and counter-attack on the former Conservative regime, was offered by Provincial Secretary H. C. Nixon when he said that full value in proportion to the cost had been rendered by all counsel retained, and mentioned the instance of the lawsuit against the Niagara Parks Commission.

Sees "Lawyers' Paradise."

Colonel Kidd, he said, had mentioned Mr. Slaght as one who had shared the "lawyers' paradise." In the Niagara litigation, Mr. Slaght had been successful in having judgment against the Province held down to \$160,000, when it might have been more than \$2,000,000. Surely, he argued, Mr. Slaght's fee of \$32,000 was justified on that basis.

"Furthermore," asked Mr. Nixon, "I want to ask my honorable friend if he remembers the D.P. & T. investigation, under another regime, which cost \$60,000, and the \$1,000 per day spent to investigate the investigation."

"I have no responsibility for the late Government," said Colonel Kidd, amid cries of "Oh, oh!" from Government benches. "I cannot be held responsible for those five years."

Regarding the liquor label charge, Mr. Nixon assured Colonel Kidd that the matter would be investigated immediately.

Premier Hepburn himself answered another of Colonel Kidd's charges, when the Kingston Tory charged that the Province's \$15,000,000 loan issue had "failed to go over because the news leaked out that the Government was not going to accept delivery of the contracted-for Maclaren-Quebec power."

"It didn't leak out," the Prime Minister declared indignantly. "The

notification was openly sent to the companies, and I resent the insinuation that there was anything sinister in the thing."

Regardless of how the word got around, Colonel Kidd retorted, it was clear that the financial interests and the bond houses lost faith in the Government's financial policy.

Raps Budget Speech.

He criticized the Budget address because, he said, it contained no reference to assets, and did not give a fair presentation of the finances of the Province. And he extolled the policies of former Dominion Prime Minister Bennett.

Then Colonel Kidd renewed his attack of a fortnight ago on the closing of the Kingston Dairy School, Ontario, he said, produced two-and-a-half times as much cheese as the other Provinces, and the farmers could ill spare the facilities of the school in the training of their sons for the important vocation of dairying and cheese-making.

Finally, Colonel Kidd drew the attention of Hon. Dr. J. A. Faulkner, Minister of Health, to the fact that the Hendry-Connell Research Foundation at Kingston, which was using "Ensol," the latest discovery for the relief of cancer sufferers, was carrying on without a single dollar of Canadian funds behind it. It was being financed, he said, by the Biological Research Foundation of the Franklin Institute at Philadelphia. He commended to the Government's interest the work being done in Kingston, and asked that Dr. Faulkner "keep at least a fatherly eye on it."

Nearly a year had passed since the people contributed to the late King's Jubilee Cancer Fund, and nothing had been accomplished. He expressed the opinion that "something would come of the work Dr. Connell is doing."

ELECTION BILL THROWN OUT

Would Clarify Municipal Disqualifications

A bill sponsored by Sam Lawrence (C.C.F., Hamilton East), to clarify the situation as to grounds for disqualifying owners and tenants who seek election as members of Municipal Councils, was rejected by the Ontario Legislature Municipal Bills Committee yesterday.

The committee approved an amendment to the Municipal Act which would decrease the cost of printing in municipal elections by increasing the number of voters in each polling subdivision. The bill increases the number of voters in each poll from 200 to 450.

The committee approved also a bill by J. F. Kelly (Liberal, Muskoka-Ontario), designating certain areas in a municipality for grazing cattle. T. P. Murray (Liberal, Renfrew South), doubted whether the measure would work out.

"You would have to put up signs in prohibited areas and then teach the cows to read them," he said.

Polling hours at advanced polls in municipal elections may be open for any eight consecutive hours between 9 o'clock in the morning and 9 o'clock at night, the committee agreed as it passed in amended form the proposal for the change in a bill by Arthur Ellis (Con., Ottawa-South.)

The committee rejected the section in the same bill to force local boards and commissions to have their estimates before Council by Feb. 1, instead of the beginning of March.

The committee also rejected Mr. Ellis's bill to enable a Council to undertake paving or resurfacing under a section of the Municipal Act, and on approval of the Municipal Board.

TAX ON HYDRO URGED BY HOUCK ON GOVERNMENT

Niagara Falls Power Bill Highest in History, Says Liberal

A strong appeal for the taxation of Hydro came from the Government side of the Legislature last night in an address on the Budget debate by W. L. Houck, member for Niagara Falls. Complaining bitterly against the lot of his own constituents under the present policies of untaxed Hydro, the young Liberal member said: "Something positively must be done regarding Hydro and taxation. Last week Niagara Falls received its thirteenth power bill, and I am ashamed to say it was the highest we ever received."

Power and Coal.

"Is it fair," asked the member, "that we in Niagara Falls, where the power is generated, should have to pay \$22 per horsepower at its source? If you go to the coal dealer's bin and take coal on the spot, do you expect to pay as much as the man who has it delivered in a wagon?"

"I firmly believe that Hydro should be taxed," proceeded Mr. Houck. "When public ownership ceases to compete with private ownership on a fair basis, it falls in my regard. A private power company in Stamford Township paid \$132,000 taxes last year. I think the Honorable Minister of Public Welfare will back me up in the statement that Niagara Falls and Stamford have been unfairly treated. Sir Adam Beck was at least fair."

Protest Treatment.

"The Hydro-Electric Power Commission has deviated from the original policy of Sir Adam, and both Niagara Falls and Stamford have in their possession documents that prove conclusively that Sir Adam assured them that no municipalities would suffer any loss of taxes through the Hydro development at the Falls. Sir Adam was at least fair in regard to these municipalities, and paid them approximately \$75,000 a year for ten years in lieu of taxation. Last year I had a fight, and finally secured \$50,000 for Niagara Falls and \$45,000 for Stamford," he said.

"I can see no justified reason why Hydro should not pay at least a justified tax as a publicly owned enterprise if privately owned enterprises have to pay taxes far in excess of this, and I know the honorable members of this House can well see why it is that Niagara Falls and the Township of Stamford bitterly protest against the treatment received from Hydro since 1931, and you can well realize why it is that the Hon. Minister of Welfare has had his hands full in regard to these two municipalities," he said.

ROEBUCK PROPOSES JURORS ACT CHANGE

An amendment to the Jurors Act, legalizing a Judge's right to release part of a panel of jurors at a sitting of a civil court, was brought down in the Legislature yesterday by Attorney-General Arthur Roebuck. The jurors to be released are to be chosen by a drawing from a box containing the names of all jurors.