

March 5

## SAYS NEW YORK ONLY OBSTACLE TO NEW BRIDGE

Hon. T. B. McQuesten Declares Toll Elimination Is Aim of Ontario

### EXPLAINS PROCEDURE

Only bar to the erection of a bridge over the Niagara Gorge at Niagara Falls as a straight publicly owned venture was the unwillingness of New York State to share directly in such a scheme, Hon. T. B. McQuesten, Minister of Highways and Chairman of the Niagara Parks Commission, yesterday informed the Ontario Legislature.

Rebuilding by the International Railway Company of the Falls View Bridge, which crashed into the gorge when ice pressure moved the abutments on the United States side, would be deplorable, in the Minister's opinion, "because in our view the company had insufficient land at either end of the bridge approaches to accommodate the volume of traffic which used the bridge." He pointed out that traffic at that point was particularly heavy because Americans, to view the illumination of the falls for the best effect, must come over to the Canadian side.

#### Asks Information.

The question arose when Hon. George S. Henry, Acting Leader of the Conservative Opposition, requested the Government to reveal its intention regarding the proposed new bridge. He emphasized, that as a member of the Parks Commission for some ten years, he was particularly interested in the project. He said that from his understanding of the proposal, it was the Government's intention to erect a bridge that would be in time, after the cost of construction had been covered by tolls, a free bridge. He said that he was fully in accord with such a proposal.

Mr. McQuesten said that the same course is being pursued as was followed in the erection of the Sarnia-Port Huron and the Thousand Islands international bridges. In the first place, authority to erect the bridge over an international waterway must first be obtained from Ottawa.

Application for this, he said, was being obtained through a private party, for, it was his understanding that the Province was not empowered to construct works directly on its own behalf beyond an international boundary.

#### To Approach New York.

Once the charter was obtained, representations would be made to New York State to establish an authority, composed of an equal number of representatives from each side, which would issue bonds that would be a charge upon the bridge. Once the bonds were paid from tolls, the bridge would become toll free and a public utility, according to present plans.

He said he was not "wedded to this type of procedure," and emphasized that New York State was not anxious to become involved directly in a publicly owned structure. Premier Hepburn emphasized that if there was any possibility of securing an arrangement with the State of New York to erect a free bridge, Ontario was prepared to enter into such an arrangement.

Mr. McQuesten contended another method would be to have the charter granted directly to the Niagara Parks Commission. But, he

held, if bonds were issued the Government might be asked to guarantee the covenant, and he preferred not to have the matter "in the hands of the Commission."

## Income Tax Revenue Reported as \$6,000,000

Would Be Double, Is Contention, if Ontario Levy Not Subject to Prior Claim of Dominion

Provincial income tax collections, approximating \$6,000,000, will be announced for the current fiscal year by Premier Hepburn when he presents his Budget to the Legislature about the middle of this month, it was rumored at Queen's Park yesterday. The Treasury, it is said, could have made that amount \$12,000,000 or \$13,000,000 if Ontario had first crack at incomes instead of the Federal Government.

To strengthen his bid for this prior taxing, Mr. Hepburn is asking the support of the Legislature in a special resolution of which he gave formal notice yesterday.

At the present time, a man who pays income tax may deduct from his Ontario tax return the amount paid in tax to the Dominion. Mr. Hepburn, in his resolution, calls in effect, for a reversal of that position. In other words, let Ottawa allow in each tax return to the Dominion, a deduction for the amount paid by the taxpayer to the Province. Queen's Park, it is said, doesn't care whether the Federal Government continues to impose a tax or not, but it wants—and is determined to have—first shot at the incomes. The increased revenue resulting therefrom would, it is reported, aggregate \$5,000,000 or \$6,000,000 yearly.

## Act Planned To Control Cancer Cures

Establishment of the proposed special committee to investigate the various cancer treatments now being used in Ontario is provided for in legislation which Hon. Harold J. Kirby, Minister of Health, is expected to bring down to the Legislature the first of next week.

The most drastic provision in the legislation, it is understood, would compel the physicians and others using the so-called "cures" to submit them for immediate tests and other consideration by the committee.

The Government is reportedly no nearer, however, to announcing the personnel of the investigating body than it was last week. The Health Department is said to be swamped at present with recommendations for membership, and great care will be exercised in making the selections.

## Clerk Seeks To Be Lawyer

Major Alex. C. Lewis, Clerk of the Ontario Legislature, is applying to the House, in which he virtually is the mainspring, for a private bill authorizing the Law Society of Upper Canada to admit him to the practice of law as a barrister and solicitor.

The bill will be sponsored by Allan A. Lamport, Liberal member for Toronto-St. David.