

LAUDS LOYALTY OF LEGISLATURE AS SESSION ENDS

Lieutenant-Governor in His Prorogation Speech Sees Little Chance for Change in Plans for Royal Visit

BUSINESS IS REVIEWED

The third session of the twentieth Legislature of Ontario, which opened March 8, was prorogued at 6:26 p.m. Thursday by Lieutenant-Governor Albert Matthews. In his address, his honor commended the House, on behalf of his Majesty, for its unanimity in backing the resolution calling for united action in defense of the empire.

"I am confident," said the Lieutenant-Governor, "that the resolution you passed, calling in unequivocal language for the immediate mobilization of both wealth and manpower in the event of an emergency, will have its effect far beyond the boundaries of this province and Dominion."

He emphasized too, that, while the continuous threat of war has aroused considerable speculation in respect to the impending visit of their Majesties, "short of the actual outbreak of hostilities, which do not now seem imminent, it is not considered that the present plans will be altered."

The Lieutenant-Governor, in a survey of legislative activities, held it was a matter of gratification that the government was able to budget for a small surplus for the coming year in face of the increasing demands upon the public purse.

Legislation Recalled.

Among the highlights of the session, he included the resolution which asked the Dominion Government to repeal the Canada Temperance Act as it applied to Ontario; the increase in gasoline tax, of which a proportion is to be returned to the municipalities in the way of subsidies; the increased levy ordered on the income of corporations along with a decrease in the tax on paid-up capital, and the amendment to the Assessment Act which permitted mining municipalities to derive additional revenues from mines.

He cited also the Unemployment Insurance Act enabling legislation designed to make effective in Ontario the provision of any scheme which may be enacted by the Dominion Parliament; the wider powers given to the Municipal Board to arrange amalgamations and annexations of municipalities; and the extension of the provisions of the Mortgages' and Purchasers' Relief Act for another year.

HEPBURN KILLS TRADE UNIONS BILL OF CROLL'S

Government Reverses Stand and in Surprise Move Measure Fails to Pass Through Committee Stage

SPONSOR DISAPPOINTED

and the House unanimously as well—agreed to the principle of the legislation and proposed to improve

The Hepburn Government yesterday killed David A. Croll's freedom of trade unions association bill.

On Wednesday the government—it with two amendments from Hon. Norman O. Hipel, Minister of Labor, which would have prevented union activities in working hours and would have given an employer the right to dismiss "for just cause."

Mr. Hipel yesterday moved that the bill be not reported.

"Following the second reading of Bill No. 77," Mr. Hipel declared, "I have conferred at great length with my Deputy Minister and other officials of my department, the law clerks and some officials of trade union organizations. They have all agreed with me that, in view of the wide ramifications of the proposed bill, which is complicated by the fact that Ottawa is considering a bill of a similar nature, this bill should not be reported at this session. During the recess of the House my department will continue our study of this type of legislation with a view to presenting a government measure."

Won't Reveal Names.

Opposition Leader George A. Drew said it was difficult to reconcile the Minister's new course with that proposed by him on Tuesday, and he wanted to know the identity of the trade union representatives who had conferred with Mr. Hipel overnight.

"I don't think I should divulge their names," said Mr. Hipel. "I think you will take my word that I saw them. Some of them came to my office to see me."

"Can they be regarded as speaking with authority for labor?" asked Hon. Leopold Macaulay. "What I'm interested in in this matter is not so much what was said, but who said it." The Croll bill, he submitted, was a most important measure, and one with which he had been inclined to agree. It involved dealing with "a declaration" of fundamental rights. And yet the government had called it for committee consideration but fifteen minutes before the hour set for prorogation. This bill, he said, should have gone to the labor committee of the House for consideration, where the labor representatives with whom Mr. Hipel claimed to have conferred could have talked "in open court," and where the Legislature members could have identified them.

Premier Hepburn agreed that the bill should have been before the labor committee. And failure to send it there was one of the reasons, he said, why, in his opinion, it should be held over for another year. He would, he said, accept full responsibility for the government's suddenly altered course.

"This is a matter of great concern," said David Croll. "Perhaps the department should have more information, as they contended that I don't know. Whether the other members are disappointed or not by what has happened, I can say that I am terribly disappointed, particularly after the Prime Minister's stand of yesterday."