

WOULD EXTEND MORTGAGE ACT

Legislative Action Is
Opened With Ten Bills

ASK LEGAL CHANGES

Legislative action opened yesterday in the Ontario House with the introduction of ten bills ranging in description from one to extend the provisions of the Mortgages and Purchasers' Relief Act for another year to a measure designed to clarify regulations on private hospitals.

Attorney-General Conant also introduced the first in what promises to be a series of bills to implement recommendations of the Legislative Committee investigating into the administration of justice. Several of the proposed amendments were concerned with courts regulation.

An amendment to the Devolution of Estates Act, if passed, would provide for a widow of a man who dies intestate, to receive the first \$1,000 and two-thirds of the remaining estate. Under the present act, a widow is entitled to \$1,000 and one-half the residue.

One clause of the bill to amend the Private Hospitals' Act, explained Hon. H. J. Kirby, Minister of Health, would have the effect of barring tubercular patients from private hospitals. The section is designed to strengthen the Government's T.B. program. An amendment to the Public Health Act would give the Council of a township in unorganized territory having a population of 15,000, power to license and regulate barbershops and hairdressing establishments.

Clerks, Registrars to Perform Ancient Duties of Court Crier

Clerks of the county courts and high court registrars yesterday were warned by legislative proposals in the Ontario House to get down to their memory work against the time when they succeed court criers.

By amendments to the Sheriff's Act and the Administration of Justice Expenses Act proposed by Attorney-General Conant in the first of a series of law administration reforms, the post of court crier, an ancient one in British jurisprudence, is declared outmoded after July 1.

Hence, after that date and after present criers can be honorably retired, the clerks and registrars will be charged with the duty of declar-

ing the ancient ritual, which, interpreted from the court vernacular, is: "Oyez! Oyez! Oyez! All manner of persons having anything to do before this court (naming it) for the county of (naming it) draw near and give your attention and you shall be heard. God Save the King."

The present duties of court criers and their fees are: Making proclamation for opening or adjourning courts, 25 cents; making every other proclamation, 25 cents; calling and swearing grand jury, 50 cents; calling and swearing each petit jury, 50 cents; calling and swearing each witness, 25 cents; attending courts, per diem, \$3.