

## Business Broker Bill Is Held Over in House

On the plea of Colonel Drew and the assent of Acting Leader H. C. Nixon, the bill requiring business brokers to be licensed, was held over in Legislature yesterday. Colonel Drew believed that the term "business broker" was not adequately defined. Mr. Conant maintained it was and argued that safeguards against improper actions were contained in a clause which said proceedings "shall not be instituted except with the consent of the Securities Commission.

"If you cannot find a definition," said Colonel Drew, "drop the bill. If you can, do not leave it with the Securities Commission. Compel these people to make a declaration, and if it is incorrect and there is misrepresentation, then action is open under the Criminal Code."

## M.L.A.'s Pay Tribute To Joseph Thompson

Formal regret in the death of Joseph E. Thompson, former Speaker of the Legislature and for ten years Conservative member for Toronto-St. David, yesterday was expressed in the Legislature by Col. George Drew and Provincial Secretary H. C. Nixon.

Mr. Nixon said that arrangements would be made for the House to be represented at the funeral on Wednesday. Mr. Thompson died early Sunday morning.

"As one who sat in this House when he was Speaker," said the Provincial Secretary, "I wish to state that he was a splendid representative who was highly regarded and who occupied his position with great distinction."

# Hold's Legislation Based On Wife Being 'a Slave'

Legislation setting out the division of property in event a husband dies without a will is "predicated upon the supposition that a wife is a slave," L. M. Frost, (Con., Victoria), declared yesterday in the Legislature in appealing for more generous terms for widows with children.

The debate arose from a discussion on the Devolution of Estates Act, which is the binding law in such cases. Earlier in the session Attorney-General Conant introduced an amendment which would give a widow without children the first \$1,000 and two-thirds of the remaining estate, the balance to be divided among the next-of-kin. Under present law, the widow receives only one-half of the remaining estate.

Yesterday, he proposed further amendments, asking that the priority be increased from \$1,000 to \$5,000 regardless of the size of the estate. Up to \$50,000 the widow would get two-thirds of the estate and after

\$50,000 the law would revert to the present status and the widow would get one-half.

Mr. Frost argued that it had not gone far enough — that changes should apply to widows with children. In the majority of small estates, he claimed, a husband leaves the entire estate to the wife in the belief that she will do right by the children. He suggested that the widow with children get the first \$5,000 and two-thirds if the estate is up to \$25,000. He was supported by J. J. Glass (Lib., Toronto St. Andrew).

Opposition Leader Drew said he agreed in principle with the amendment, but rather than pass hastily a bill of such wide implications, asked that it be held over.

"So far as we have gone," said Mr. Conant, assenting, "we have not greatly disturbed the laws of intestacy. I am a little hesitant about going into laws dealing with widows and children."