

Won't Use Teak Finishes In New Hydro Building

The Ontario Hydro Commission has not authorized teak as an office finish for any part of the new Hydro building on University Avenue, according to a return filed yesterday in the Legislature in answer to a question by W. B. Reynolds (Con., Leeds). Rumors have been current at Queen's Park for some months that the office of Dr. Thomas Hogg, chairman of the commission, and probably the board room, was to be finished in teak.

Bus Gasoline Refund Asked

Citing Brantford as an example, J. I. Hagey, Liberal member for that constituency, suggested in Legislature yesterday that there should be some compensation for municipalities which own and operate their own bus services. He stated that Brantford is operating a transportation system of fifteen or sixteen busses which are operating wholly within the city limits and on streets maintained solely by the municipality.

He added that between three and four miles of the city streets are part of No. 2 Highway of the Provincial system and are therefore subject to heavy traffic. This necessitated a heavy repair and maintenance bill, paid by the city. Last year Brantford paid \$10,000 taxes on the gasoline purchased for these busses and he thought that some arrangement could be made by the Government to allow a refund.

ASSAILS COST ROAD REPAIRS

Claims Province Pays
More Than Counties

GIVES NO DETAILS

Declaration by George Doucett (Cons., Lanark), that a King's Highway maintenance job cost from \$3.42 to \$4 per yard more than a comparative work on a county road, opened a clash yesterday in the Ontario Legislature. After fifteen minutes' argument the member refused to name individuals responsible or to withdraw the allegation.

"I say that cases like this are going on all the time," said Mr. Doucett.

"And I say there isn't," retorted Acting Premier Nixon.

Mr. Nixon declared the member had no business to make the allegation unless he was prepared to back it up with particulars which could be investigated.

"Are you making a charge?" demanded Highways Minister McQuesten.

"No," retorted the Conservative, "I am making a statement of fact."

Mr. Doucett argued that the department should give their district engineers authority over the highway maintenance patrolmen. "Why should not the highway engineers, of whom I have every confidence in their ability and efficiency, have authority to get service or discharge incompetent patrolmen. It is all right to employ patrolmen under the patronage system but authority should rest with the engineer," he said.

Mining Companies to Collect Employees Poll Tax for Timmins

Timmins, by legislation approved yesterday by the Private Bills Committee, is granted authority to compel mining companies situated outside of the town limits to deduct poll taxes from the wages of employees who live in the town.

Members were advised that only one mine in the area was situated within the limits, but that hundreds of miners working in outside properties lived in Timmins, and that the town experienced extreme difficulty in collecting the taxes.

R. L. Pepall, representing the Township of Whitney and a group of mines, argued that the powers sought went beyond wisdom in municipal jurisdiction, and that the principle of compelling a company to collect taxes was unsound. He was supported by Harold N. Carr (Lib., Northumberland), who claim-

ed business men now were being compelled to engage extra help to take care of clerical work arising from the collection of different Government taxes.

Minister of Municipal Affairs McQuesten held, "It is a step in the right direction because it pins down the elusive fellow who skips from place to place without paying his poll tax."

The bill provides for a tax of not more than \$10 to be levied on every male between 21 and 60 who has been a resident of the town for thirty days prior to the date upon which the tax is levied.

Unwell, Hipel Postpones Part of Budget Speech

By consent of the entire House, Hon. N. O. Hipel, Minister of Labor and Welfare, yesterday in the Legislature was granted leave to give his budget debate address in two parts.

Mr. Hipel, victim of food poisoning on Monday, was still obviously unwell when he entered the Chamber to make his address. He had given an accounting of his labor administration and had ended a review of the Galt Air Training School work when weakness compelled him to halt.

Rather than adjourn the debate, both Acting Premier Nixon and Opposition Leader Drew suggested, and the Labor Minister assented, that he be permitted to speak of the Department of Welfare on a succeeding debate day.

Premier Hepburn, said Mr. Hipel, on two occasions when Ottawa requested that the school for training ground crews be enlarged, advised:

"If it is for the R.C.A.F., you have got a free hand, Expand to the limit."

"We have tried to carry on the school without political consideration," said the Minister at one stage and brought applause from both sides of the House.

In review he told how the school was planned shortly before war broke out and how the building was opened in Galt eighteen days after the declaration of war. He lauded the co-operation of manufacturers and others in opening the way and in supplying equipment for the school. "Every Province in the Dominion has visited the school at the Federal Government's request, and all but Prince Edward Island has opened schools on the lines of the one at Galt," he said.

The total per pupil cost of \$360 bears a Provincial share of \$101, he revealed.

SCHOLARSHIP PLAN PROPOSED

Hagey Urges Ontario to
Use University Grants

SEES INEQUALITY

H. I. Hagey (Lib., Brantford) suggested in the Ontario Legislature yesterday that part of the university grants given by the Government should be set aside for scholarships for deserving students.

In speaking during the Budget debate, Mr. Hagey said that the secondary schools are turning out thousands of graduates each year, many of whom are prevented from continuing their education because of the lack of finances. "I suggest," he said, "that a certain amount of these grants be set aside for scholarships which will permit a student an entire university course and that there be a specified number of students each year."

"At present," he continued, "we merely subsidize the education of all classes and the benefit accrues mainly to those whose families can afford to give them a complete, or at least a partial, university course. The way I suggest would help those who are at present unable to go to university and who would greatly appreciate the opportunity to continue their education."