

LAUDS EFFORT IN SECURING HELP FOR FARMS

Interdepartment Group
Praised for Mobilizing
Students for Growers

SESSION SPEECHES

Two brief addresses, covering numerous phases of Governmental activity, were given in the Legislature yesterday by the mover and the seconder of the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne.

E. J. Anderson (Lib., Welland) moved the address, and it was seconded by R. Begin (Lib., Russell). Neither speech contained anything of a controversial nature, though Mr. Begin, in closing, expressed regret over the resignation from the Cabinet of Hon. Robert Laurier, Ontario Mines Minister. He did not extend his remarks to say that Mr. Laurier "ably represented the French-Canadian element of Ontario in the Cabinet."

Mr. Anderson praised the work of the interdepartmental committee, composed of education, agriculture and labor representatives, particularly in providing student help to fruit growers. He said 14,000 secondary school students were obtained through the efforts of this committee, and he estimated 20,000 will be available this year to assist on the farms and in the factories after the fruit is picked and processed.

Making Supreme Effort.

Dealing with the quickened pace of industrial life in Ontario, Mr. Anderson said firms in Ontario are putting forth a supreme effort toward maximum production of war materials and equipment.

"During 1941 plans for new factories and extensions to existing buildings and plants, totalling over 36,000,000, were submitted to the factory inspection branch of the Department of Labor for approval," said Mr. Anderson. "The smooth-running industrial activity which prevails in Ontario today is largely due to the mediation and conciliation officers of this department.

Canada stands in a favorable position with respect to lost time due to strikes and lockouts. The index for Canada during the first of 1941 was 54 per 1,000 workers. Great Britain 41, and the United States 381."

Ontario's contribution to the war effort was discussed by the member for Welland. The aircraft training school at Galt, where 1,000 students receive instructions in the design, construction and repair of aircraft, was praised by Mr. Anderson.

Reviews Legislation.

Mr. Begin reviewed legislation passed at the last session of the Legislature, and paid particular attention to the cheese subsidy, which, he said, had been a source of great encouragement to the producers. He dealt with the problems of farm labor shortage, and declared it should be overcome in the interests of wartime production of foodstuffs. This production equalled in importance the production of military equipment, Mr. Begin declared.

Speaking of the resignation of Mines Minister Laurier, Mr. Begin said: "I was sorry and surprised to hear of the resignation of Hon. Robert Laurier, the Minister of Mines. I am not going to comment on it other than to say that I feel he so ably represented the French-Canadian element of the Province in the Cabinet."

In praising the work of Hon. P. M. Dewan, Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Begin said the name of Dewan, linked with that of the Premier, "is in the hearts and on the lips of the French-Canadian farmers."

Pre-Marital Blood-Test Plan Won't Come Before Legislature

There will be no legislation brought in at the current session of the Legislature to make compulsory a pre-marital blood test, Hon. Harold Kirby, Minister of Health, said yesterday. Mr. Kirby said he and his department officials favored the move, but found it impracticable at the present time.

"There are some difficulties which must first be ironed out," said Mr. Kirby in an interview following ad-

journalment of the House. "One of these is the fact that the great percentage of marriages are performed in the church, and 40 per cent of the marriages in this category need no licenses because of the calling of banns."

Pending legislation concerning venereal disease was for the purpose of tightening up the few remaining loopholes that exist in the control of the disease, the Minister explained.