

Ontario Liquor Profits \$17,275,000 for Year

The Ontario Liquor Control Board paid a total of \$17,275,000 in profits to the Provincial Treasurer during the year ended March 31, 1943, it was shown yesterday in the annual report of the board tabled in the Provincial Legislature.

The payment was made up of \$16,225,000 on account of profits on sales and \$1,050,000 from permits.

Sales from Liquor Control Board stores during the 12-month period totalled \$38,460,496 the report showed with a gross trading profit of \$13,726,935 with total expenses including depreciation and items written off, of \$2,054,315 which produced the net trading profit of \$11,672,619.

This sum, together with other revenues derived from fees, taxes, and so on, resulted in a total net income of \$17,482,258, the report said.

Sales of beer, wine and spirits in

the period under review amounted to 45,698,226 gallons, an increase of 3,350,013 over the year ending March 31, 1942. In all lines there was an increase except in the sale of imported spirits and wineries sales of domestic wines.

Sale of spirits, beer and wine from liquor stores were valued at \$39,460,496 in the year under review, an increase of \$6,434,652. Net value of beer sold from breweries and brewers retail stores, exclusive of any charge for containers, totalled \$50,523,428 compared with \$45,548,117.

Wineries sales of domestic wines for the year were valued at \$3,177,121, compared with \$2,903,584 in the previous year.

The total sales of liquor, beer and wine in the year 1943 were valued at \$93,161,047, compared with \$81,487,605 in the year ended March 31, 1942.

The report showed that besides the sums paid to the Provincial Treasurer, 20 per cent of fees received from hotel authorities were paid to 318 municipalities, amounting to \$343,700.

In addition the Dominion Government was paid \$15,453,550 in customs and excise duties and sales and excise taxes on spirits, wines and imported beers purchased by the board. The Dominion also was paid for malt duties and taxes on domestic beers and wines sold in Ontario approximately \$18,600,000, a total to the Dominion of about \$34,000,000.

Since the beginning of operation of the Liquor Control Board in June, 1927, until March 31, 1943, payments to the Provincial Treasury of profits have reached a grand total of \$155,980,671.

Would Establish Farm Committees

A bill to establish county agricultural committees throughout Ontario was introduced in the Legislature yesterday by Agriculture Minister T. L. Kennedy. He explained that a committee will be set up in each county composed of "farmers appointed by farmers themselves except for two men."

Three bills passed third reading, the \$1 a ton increased sugar beet subsidy bill and the bills to establish an advisory committee for Hydro and establish the Ontario Research Foundation.

In committee the bill to permit all commissioned officers in the services to take affidavits was amended so that it can be brought into effect as soon as it receives Royal assent.

Extend Franchise, Jolliffe Suggests

A resolution seeking to have the franchise extended to every qualified elector and all men and women in the armed forces was given notice of motion in the Legislature yesterday by C.C.F. Leader E. B. Jolliffe. It calls for study by a select committee of the House of the Election Act, Voters' List Act, and the Active Service Election Act, with a view to reconsideration and the recommendation of necessary amendments to the present session of the Legislature. The provisions of existing legislation with respect to elections was termed "inadequate and unsatisfactory."

Ontario Government Will Act Soon Toward Start on Waterway Project

President Roosevelt's reported endorsement of the St. Lawrence Waterway project as a postwar measure "is one of the most important statements in a considerable time in regard to our prospects in this Province," Premier George Drew told the Legislature yesterday.

The Premier announced that his Government would take steps immediately to open negotiations to carry the plan forward since it would offer additional employment that would be possible only by

bringing in electrical power from that source.

The Government and the Hydro had been doing everything possible, he said, to forward interest in the development of the great St. Lawrence enterprise and had been dealing with it for more than six months.

"The announcement that the President is willing to proceed is a vital key to forward the movement for which we are already prepared to draft plans," the Premier stated.