

March 21

Plan Assistance In Housing Loans

Assistance in housing loans under the National Housing Act is provided in two amendments to existing legislation introduced in the Legislature yesterday by Attorney-General Leslie Blackwell. One brings the lending powers of loan companies into line with those of trust and insurance companies and removes the 10-year limitation on debentures as "unworkable" under the Housing Act.

An amendment to the Companies Act will enable Provincially incorporated insurance companies to undertake loans under the Housing Act. It also prohibits traffic in lists of shareholders under penalty of a \$1,000 fine or six months' imprisonment.

A Loan and Trust Corporation Act amendment permits loan companies to distribute deposits to next-of-kin of depositors and requires statements to depositors, now compulsory, only where depositors request them.

Four bills offered by C.C.F. members also received first reading. They included amendments to Public School and Separate School Acts, submitted by W. J. Grummett (C.C.F., Cochrane South), providing for secret instead of open voting in rural school section elections; an amendment to the Minimum Wage Act providing minimum wages for "certain workers," introduced by Arthur Williams (C.C.F., Ontario), and a Municipal Act amended by R. D. Thornberry (C.C.F., Hamilton Centre).

Mines Minister Leslie Frost's bill amending the Mining Tax Act to bring payment dates for mining taxes into conformity with other levies, also received first reading.

Most-Detested King Minister, C.C.F. Appraisal of Mitchell

The C.C.F. hasn't high regard for Dominion Labor Minister Humphrey Mitchell. In the Legislature yesterday R. D. Thornberry (C.C.F., Hamilton Centre) had this to say about Mr. Mitchell, without naming him:

"About 14 years ago, a man was elected to office in Hamilton on the backs of the working people. Wined and dined and dazzled by the glitter of the capital, he was weaned away from the course he had pledged himself to serve. Today he has the dubious distinction of being the most detested man in the Mackenzie King Cabinet."

There was vigorous desk-banging by the C.C.F. members. "We don't need to name him, I suppose," remarked one member.

Mr. Thornberry looked around the

CCF Counts on Help In Aim to Defeat Drew

Though the attempt of the C.C.F. Opposition to defeat the Drew Government last session failed because it voted alone, it is counting on the help of the other opposition groups to achieve its aim this session, Arthur Williams (C.C.F., Ontario) told the Legislature last night during his contribution to the Throne Speech debate.

"Of course we can't defeat you on our own. But there is every indication that when the vote comes this time we won't be voting alone. You're very near the cemetery," he told the Government, amid general laughter from Government members.

Such defeat need not mean an election, he said. The responsibility for an election, he insisted, would rest on two men, Premier Drew and the Lieutenant-Governor, and would be made in the Lieutenant-Governor's chamber by the two men.

"The one who is here when the

vote is taken will do the most talking," Mr. Williams said. "He'll say to the one who listens: 'I want you to do so and so,' and that's where the election decision will be made. That decision will rest entirely on the Prime Minister and the Lieutenant-Governor."

"While the Government cannot avert a defeat in this House, it can avert a wartime election. The Government talks about bending all our energies to win the war before an election. We'll find out in a few hours how much sincerity there is in this kind of talk. I think what they say about no election in wartime will prove just so much eye-wash," Mr. Williams concluded.

Mr. Williams adjourned the debate.

Premier Drew announced before adjournment that if sufficient progress were made with bills awaiting consideration today debate on the Throne Speech would continue tonight. It is understood it will not likely conclude until Thursday night.

No Election Need, Lockhart Argues

The C.C.F. sees no necessity for an election at this time and if the Government can't carry on its mandate it should resign and make way for the C.C.F. Opposition, George Lockhart, C.C.F. member for Rainy River, said in the Legislature yesterday speaking in the Throne Speech debate.

"We don't believe the people of Ontario will appreciate the holding of an election while our boys and girls are overseas, and with only two sessions of the 21st Legislature completed," he said.

He advocated a longer session of the House, deeming six weeks insufficient to conduct the Province's business. He suggested that the House should recess at Easter and resume afterward or that a special session be held within four months to discuss agriculture and other important matters.

"The Star backs the Liberals and The Globe and Mail backs Drew," Mr. Lockhart commented at one point in his speech. "Big Business on Bay St. gambles on the possible winner and the people of Ontario pay through the nose. Our boys overseas are not fighting for that type of consideration."