

The Ontario Legislature For Week Ending April 3

With two morning sittings of the House, and as many as three committees at work at one time, the Legislature handled a great amount of business in the final week. Not a great deal of legislation proved contentious, and the Opposition appeared to have no serious objections to Government measures. Such discussion as there was took place on public and private bills. The prime minister's intimation a few days ago that the government had no objection to staying on and continuing the session after Easter adjournment appears to have had the effect of inspiring private members to expedite business. In addition the Progressive group has not been very heavily represented, and during most of one evening session this week, every seat in that section of the House was vacant.

The Township School Boards Bill was discussed on Tuesday by the prime minister, Dr. J. D. Monteith (Conservative, North Perth); A. P. Mehoney (Liberal, West Bruce); Sam Clarke (Liberal, Northumberland); A. J. Fallis (Conservative, East Durham); J. W. Sangster (Liberal, Glenora); D. J. Taylor (Progressive, North Grey); D. M. Ross (Progressive, North Oxford); and A. Belanger (Liberal, Russell). The bill, as previously intimated by the premier, was submitted only for discussion and publicity, and was then withdrawn for a year. Mr. Ferguson said that while he had a number of letters and resolutions from trustee bodies in favor of the measure, the province was evidently not ready for it. He said: "It is true there is a good deal of feeling in opposition to the suggestion. One reason is the sentiment that surrounds the little red schoolhouse; the other is the reluctance of local school trustees to lose autonomy in the handling of local affairs. I think it only requires a little education to show them that we can gradually improve the situation. Officers of the department who have worked out this problem from a financial standpoint assure me that in five or six years the cost of education under such a plan would be reduced 25 to 30 per cent, and this would certainly be a great relief to rural people."

The Public Accounts Committee held its final sitting on Wednesday, when a report was presented by the chairman, Major Alex. Lewis, reviewing the proceedings and reporting the evidence to the House without special comment. However, W. E. Raney proceeded then to read a five-page minority report, enumerating various little details he had picked out of the evidence from time to time, by way of criticizing departmental methods, with the immediate result that Col. Currie and M. M. McBride moved a resolution "that Hon. James Lyons is entitled to a complete and unqualified exoneration of any breach of the Legislative Assembly Act, and that his company's business record with relation to the Government or any contractor having business relations with the Government is beyond reproach." This was adopted on a vote of 22 to 5, the five being Messrs. Raney, Kemp, Fisher, Sinclair and Widdifield. Annoyed by Mr. Raney's departure from present in seeking to introduce a partisan finding, William Finlayson, East Simcoe, who had conducted examination of witnesses for the government, made it known to the committee that Mr. Raney himself was a director of the Copeland-Chatterton Company of Toronto, which sold supplies to the Government, and that he had also been a director in 1920, as well as a shareholder continuously, being therefore in just the same position which he had declared so reprehensible in the case of Mr. Lyons and George Oakley, M. L. A. When it is remembered that the evidence of a witness one day during the week disclosed the fact that Rev. Edgar Watson and Jack Ramsden, while members of the Legislature during the Drury regime, took commissions on insurance placed by them for the government with a Toronto agency, it will be apparent that the Opposition has not only achieved nothing by this session's Public Accounts Enquiry, but received a lot of undesirable publicity. Mr. Watson, who is now in the United States, was U. F. O. member for North Victoria, and Mr. Ramsden was a Liberal representing a Toronto constituency.

When the House was passing supplementary estimates on Tuesday, Premier Ferguson called attention to an impression given by some newspaper headings that the government proposed to cut off entirely and at once all contributions to Queens and Western Universities at Kingston and London. He explained that while he had given the authorities of these institutions warning that they must look about for endowments in order to augment their revenue and carry their own financing, yet he recognized that both were doing good work, and there was no idea of terminating abruptly and entirely all provincial assistance during such period as they were arranging to finance themselves. His contention, however, was that Toronto was the state university, and it was not reasonable to ask the province to indefinitely finance two others.

Part of one afternoon's discussion, on Wednesday, sufficed to dispose of Col. John A. Currie's government control bill, and also to give opportunity or argument on the 10 per

cent beer bill of J. A. Pinard, (Liberal, East Ottawa). Debate on the latter was adjourned until Thursday, and Col. Currie's bill was ruled out of order. Premier Ferguson spoke to both bills, repeating his declaration that the Government proposed to take no more referenda or plebiscites, but rather to gather information regarding the feeling of the public in all parts of the province, and reach a decision on that basis. When that was done, the public would be informed and given opportunity to express themselves at the polls. The O. T. A. will be an issue at the next election in any event, for the premier on this occasion pointed out that if the Government decided the Act should stand unchanged, the electors would have opportunity to say at the polls what they thought about that.

When the Premier's bill to grant \$5,000,000 additional for Northern Ontario development was before the House on Monday, several Liberal speakers took occasion to endorse the expenditure. Mr. Sinclair objected only that more detailed information should be given in advance, but Mr. Ferguson pointed out that it was based on the estimates of divisional engineers who were on the ground and fully acquainted with the needs of their districts. Hon. James Lyons, although not now minister of lands and forests, made a vigorous speech on behalf of the north country, and emphasized the fact that the outlay on roads up there is "not a flea bite" compared to the millions spent in Old Ontario, particularly under the last years of the late government, when the worst of the roads in the older part of the province were better than the best in the north.

Although the special committee on the election laws threw out W. E. Raney's bill to prohibit campaign contributions from brewers, government contractors, etc., several important changes were approved. Advanced polls will be held on Thursdays Fridays and Saturdays immediately preceding election day, for railway men and commercial travelers. The three months' residence qualification is reduced to two, with a view to relief of farm laborers and others who take employment in a new place in the spring. Elections in this province sometimes come in June. The voting time is also to be extended an hour in the evening. Provision is to be made whereby persons in rural constituencies, who find their names left off the list may vote by making an affidavit and obtaining the affidavit of one well-known person.

Chiefly because there was not opportunity, at such a late stage, for full discussion, the Municipal Committee on Wednesday threw out for this year amendments to the Transient Traders' Act providing for a scale of license fees for peddlers and for the regulating of transient traders. Representatives were present from various business interests and the Retail Merchants' Association of Ontario, and exemption from the provisions were asked in respect to sewing machines, Fuller Brush Company, tea merchants, newspaper canvassers and others. One provision of the bill would have the effect of giving a preference to Ontario manufactured products, in respect to direct sale methods, and it was pointed out that this might induce retaliation against Ontario by other provinces. The committee agreed that the retail merchants who pay heavy taxes had a grievance in respect to the competition of peddlers and transient traders, but felt that there was no time for adequate discussion, and consequently the measure was not reported to the House.

In a bill including the session's amendments to the Municipal Act, which was put through on Thursday, there is a clause enabling trustees of police villages to pass by-laws paying themselves for attendance at meetings, not more than \$5 per day. Owing to the action of the Municipal Committee the other day, the clause now carries at the end this proviso, "after such by-law has been submitted to and approved of by the electors on the day of the annual election of trustees."

After brief discussion of the principle involved, D. J. Taylor, (Progressive, North Grey, on Wednesday withdrew his resolution calling for the House membership to be reduced to the same number as Ontario members in the Commons, 82, and for Ontario ridings to have boundaries coterminous with federal constituencies. Mr. Taylor is one of those who objected strenuously last session to the wiping out of rural constituencies by the redistribution bill.

Hon. Charles McCrea has announced the decision of the government to take over fish hatcheries in this province which are being given up by the Dominion Government next month. The announcement followed a conference here with federal officials. The hatcheries are at Point Edward, Kenora, Collingwood, Warton, Port Arthur, Southampton, Belleville and Kingsville. The province already operates hatcheries at Port Arthur, Fort Francis, Kenora and Normandale. When the Dominion Government gave notice that it proposed to discontinue nine hatcheries in Ontario, vigorous representations were made to the Ontario Government not to let them be abandoned, in view of the needs of the fishing industry, and Mr. McCrea has placed an amount in the estimates for this year in connection with maintenance.

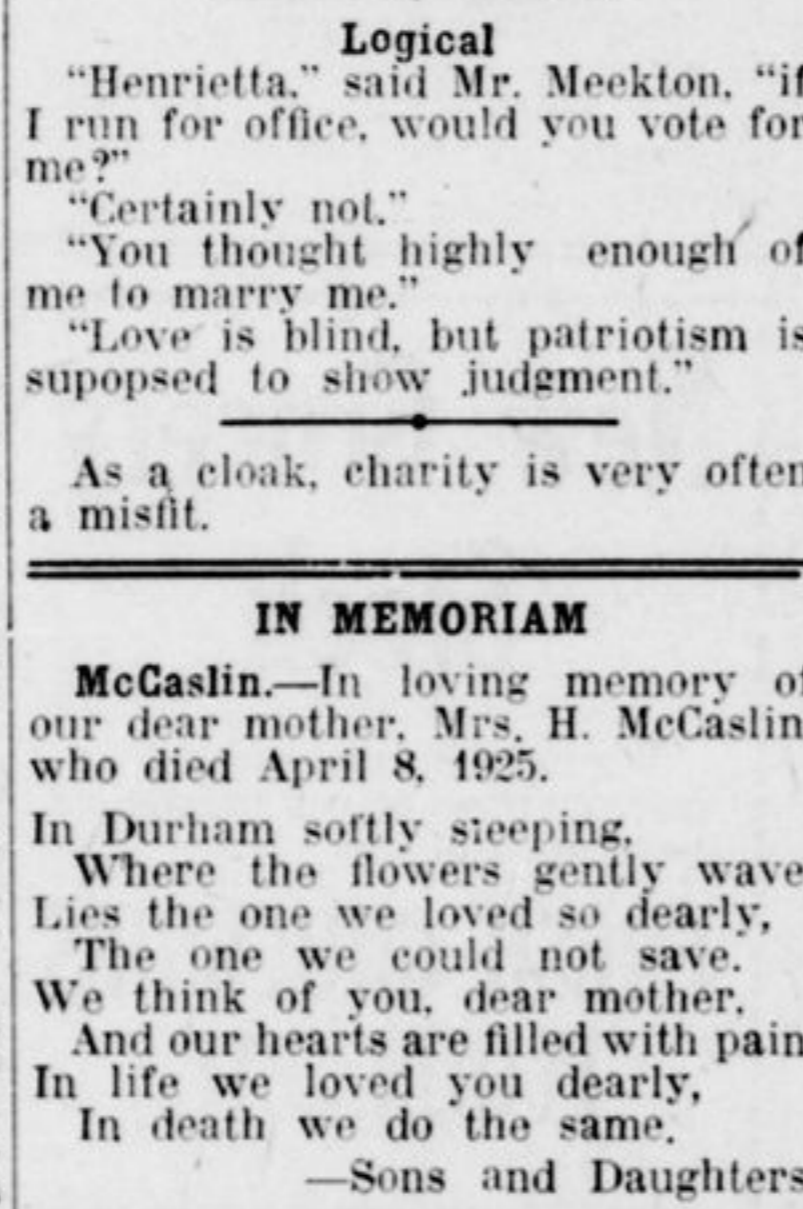
Logical
"Henrietta," said Mr. Meekton, "if I run for office, would you vote for me?"
"Certainly not."
"You thought highly enough of me to marry me."
"Love is blind, but patriotism is supposed to show judgment."

As a cloak, charity is very often a misfit.

IN MEMORIAM
McCaslin.—In loving memory of our dear mother, Mrs. H. McCaslin, who died April 8, 1925.

In Durham softly sleeping,
Where the flowers gently wave,
Lies the one we loved so dearly,
The one we could not save.
We think of you, dear mother,
And our hearts are filled with pain.
In life we loved you dearly,
In death we do the same.
—Sons and Daughters.

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A DEMONSTRATION of Chevrolet will delight and surprise you. It will bring you a new idea of four-cylinder power and smoothness. It will make the new LOWER Chevrolet prices appear all the more remarkable.

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The Home Garden

NEW THINGS FOR THE GARDEN

New introductions in plants each year add to the interest of gardening. Without novelties and keen competition, it is likely that even the older strains placed on the market from year to year would deteriorate, and with this monotony, would come loss of interest in gardening.

Seldom do we have a brand new, unknown vegetable offered. The first effort of man is to secure food, and the world has been well scoured for edible plants that will grow in the temperate zone. The best we can expect is improvement in the present vegetables, due to hybridization and selection of types. Each year brings us many new things in this manner.

This year we shall find a new tomato approaching the Ponderosa



A TOMATO OF THE PONDEROSA TYPE, WITHOUT WRINKLES AND AN ONION OF THE SPANISH TYPE ARE NEW INTRODUCTIONS

type, but without its wrinkles. The pippy mustards for greens have been improved. Seed experts have produced some improvements in the cos lettuce types, the kind to grow if you have no luck with head lettuce. There are always new radishes, although only an expert can tell the difference between a lot of them.

The Honeyball melon, a Texas development, is one of the newest things, a cross between the honey dew and musk melon, but it is not for most northern gardens, as it needs too long a warm season. Some of England's fine, new peas are found in all the lists. They are well worth any gardener's trial.

A new onion or two of the Spanish type will be found. Onion growers will soon be planting the seed for the big Spanish types. Beans with less vestige of strings than the former stringless types are offered. We have reached the elimination of the string from the string bean.

All of these new types in vegetables are well worth a trial, and every gardener ought to try out at least a few of them to see if they are better than the sorts he has been growing. The new Washington rust-proof asparagus, although on the market for several seasons, is worth a trial if the home patch is troubled

with these brown pest spots. There are also more new sweet corns in which the Golden Bantam has been crossed with other corns.

WHEN DAD GETS PEEVED

Most of the time the "old man" has a disposition sweet,
And manages to, with a smile,
Life's little troubles meet—oh,
But there is one exception—oh,
You ought to hear him shout,
When he wakes up at 6 a. m.
And finds the fire's out!

He grumbles all the way down stairs
And cusses, like a sot,
Consigning furnaces like ours
To where it's always hot.
He open jerks the furnace door
And peers within to frown;
Then shakes the grates until it seems
He'll jar the whole house down.

Old papers, waste and trash and then
Tossed loosely in its maw,
Unto the fierce accompaniment
Of pa's loose wagging-jaw.
The family knows well when it's lit,
And while they wheeze and choke,
He hustles round to change the drafts
To stop the belching smoke.

At last the hated task is done,
And soon the welcome heat

Goes radiating up the pipes—
Safe then it is to greet
The "old man" with a cheery word,
His peevishness has suffered rout,
Once more he'll be good natured till
He finds the furnace out.

Kidding the Scotch
An undertaker in Aberdeen went bankrupt. His stock of coffins was advertised for sale at fifteen cents on the dollar. That night seventy-eight Scotchmen committed suicide.

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Information as to Courses may be obtained from the Principal.
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J. A. M. ROBB, B. A., Principal.
JOHN MORRISON, Chairman.

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Raysylks, figured and plain, Crepe de chins, Voiles

Striped Broadcloths, @ per yard... \$1.10
Cotton Broadcloths, @ per yard... 50c
Coat Linings, @ per yard from 50c to 75c
Navy Blue Serge, 54" wide, @... \$1.50
Leatherette, @ per yard... 90c

C. L. GRANT - DURHAM

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NORTH PART LOTS 22, Egremont, contains 22 acres, cleared, building in good state, frame barn 40x50, concrete tank at barn and 7, Con. 4, S.D. containing 110 acres; 19 in good state of cultivation; the premises are a frame woodshed at well at door; never far from farm, making a farm. This property right to quick purchase, particulars apply at W. R. R. 4, Durham, Ont.

Lot 66, Con. 2, W. 2 1/2 miles southwest of containing 86 acres. In good state of cultivation with shed and extension kitchen. Well watered and For further particulars apply to William Smith, R. R.

About the time an old to do wrong, is right.