

THE LEGISLATURE WEEK BY WEEK

THURSDAY, MARCH 22ND—

Attorney-General Price announced that Ontario will adopt silicosis as a compensable disease under the Workmen's Compensation Act. Any silicotic (a diseased condition due to working in the mines) suffering from one of the three stages of the disease—ante-primary, primary, or secondary—will be entitled to payment, provided that his total service in the mines of the province is not less than five years.

Ontario is the first province or state on the North American Continent to place silicosis among the compensable diseases.

Six bills were given third reading, and ten passed Committee of the House. Aurelien Belanger's (Liberal, Russell) bill to amend the Theatres and Cinematographs Act was one of four given second reading. Hon. Geo. S. Henry, Acting Leader of the Government in the absence of Premier Ferguson, had no opposition to state. While the measure might require some "dressing up" in committee, the Government, he said, approved of its principle.

FRIDAY, MARCH 23RD—

The Legislature authorized the Government to negotiate a \$50,000,000 loan with which to meet its financial obligations for the fiscal year ending Oct. 31, 1927. It will be applied to departmental administration and to maturing bonds, and represents an increase of \$10,000,000 over the loan authorized last session.

There will be no special committee of the Legislature appointed at the present session to travel throughout the province during the recess to make a survey of the fish and game situation.

MONDAY, MARCH 26TH—

Main estimates for the fiscal year ending Oct. 31, 1929, and amounting to \$88,639,318, were tabled. This amount is approximately \$6,000,000 less than the estimate for the fiscal year ending Oct. 31, 1928, as tabled during last year's session of the House.

BY DEPARTMENTS.

By departments the "1929" estimates are as follows:

Lieutenant-Governor's Office, \$6,050; Prime Minister's Department, \$8,335,600; Legislation, \$384,575; Attorney-General's Department, \$2,061,415; Insurance Department, \$49,625; Education Department, \$7,900,189; Lands and Forests Department, \$2,547,450; Northern Development Department, \$499,725; Mines Department, \$360,000; Game and Fisheries Department, \$527,825; Public Works Department, \$1,262,165; Highways Department, \$562,339; Health Department, \$686,450; Labor Department, \$2,675,705; Provincial Treasurer's Department, \$619,950; Provincial Auditor's Office, \$98,725; Provincial Secretary's Department, \$829,540; Agriculture Department, \$2,608,390; Miscellaneous, \$623,000.

Chief reason for the falling off in this session's vote can be found in the Hydro estimates. These, as voted a year ago, were more than \$15,000,000. The total vote for 1929 is but \$8,252,000. Of this last amount the Niagara system is represented by \$5,750,000, \$1,000,000 of which goes to the Niagara Falls-St. Thomas line, and \$750,000 for rural extension. For the Georgian Bay system the estimate of \$655,000; Ottawa-St. Lawrence system, \$375,000; Thunder Bay, \$225,000; Central Ontario, \$620,000; Nipissing, \$437,000; Algoma, \$10,000.

EDUCATION ESTIMATES.

Education Department estimates contain a vote of \$2,100,000 for grants to rural, public, and separate schools; \$100,000 for consolidated schools; \$55,000 for summer schools.

One hundred and thirty thousand six hundred dollars is voted for English-French training schools, as compared with \$143,600 of a year ago. The University of Toronto grant is set at \$166,900, and Western University, \$300,000.

Estimates for the Dept. of Highways show a slight increase. For 1929 they are \$575,614, whereas for 1928 they were set at \$562,339.

LESS FOR HEALTH.

Dept. of Health shows a falling off in requirement, the sum for 1929 being \$686,450, as against \$773,600 for last year. Dept. of Labor shows a slight increase with a vote of \$2,675,705 being asked. Provincial Treasurer's Dept. is down below its 1928 mark. Six hundred and nineteen thousand nine hundred and fifty dollars will be voted this session, where \$663,450 was voted a year ago.

Total vote of the Provincial Secretary's Dept. is \$6,829,540 for 1929, as compared with \$7,063,191 for 1928. The Agriculture Dept. vote is placed at \$2,620,190—practically the same figure as brought down a year ago.

A new sub-section to the Liquor Control Act provides stiff penalties for those who consume or obtain for beverage purpose patent medicines or essences of alcoholic content, and another item in the tightening-up process is to the effect that an offence committed by any occupant of a house shall disqualify the residence for one year as a place where liquor may legally be kept.

Section 80, providing that liquor must be kept in the bottle in which it was purchased is amended to provide that the Government label must remain on the receptacle until the liquor is consumed.

Hon. William Finlayson obtained first reading for the annual amalgamation of amendments to the Municipal

Act, and Premier Ferguson introduced the School Law Amendment Act, 1928.

E. Proulx (Prescott) introduced his bill providing for exemption from vaccination of conscientious objectors, and removing the compulsory feature in relation to vaccination upon entrance to schools and colleges.

Premier Ferguson obtained first reading for a bill "To Make Provision for the University of Western Ontario."

As vigorous as ever in their criticism of Premier Ferguson's Township School Boards Bill, Opposition members bombarded the Government with protests when the revised measure came up in the House for second reading. For two hours the debate swung back and forth. Finally the Prime Minister, who had started the argument, adjourned it to continue it. The new cast block was formally opened with due ceremony at night.

TUESDAY, MARCH 27TH—

The Government and Legislature are hopeful that there will be no private bills next year arising out of church union controversies. The day was taken up considering and adopting the report of the Private Bills Committee on the five bills remaining, settling the troubles arising out of church union. Several private and local bills received attention and were passed.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28TH—

A request that the Ontario Government proclaim an Act passed by the Drury Government in 1922 making provision for co-operative banking in the Province of Ontario, was made during the consideration of the estimates for the year by A. Belanger (Lib., Russell). What were known as co-operative banks were doing business today in the province, and were materially aiding the farmer by giving him loans which he would not have been able to get otherwise. There were some seven or eight, he believed, at present in existence in the province, while in Quebec they were numerous.

"They are operating without charter," the Attorney-General suggested. "Yes," Mr. Belanger replied; "they are operating in a very unsatisfactory manner under the name of trustees." The matter will be inquired into.

Estimates passed for the Insurance Dept. totalled \$49,625; for the Dept. of Mines, \$360,000; for the Dept. of Game and Fisheries, \$527,825—a total for the day of \$8,778,530.

THURSDAY, MARCH 29TH—

With the traditional form and ceremony concluding the passage of the annual Finance bill, the Legislature at night approved the expenditure of \$38,639,318 on the affairs of the province for the fiscal year of 1929. Films displayed in Ontario picture theatres are to be stamped in a way that will indicate whether or not they are considered suitable for children. The plan will be worked out under regulations of the Provincial Treasurer's Dept., and not by statute.

Premier Ferguson gave this information in asking withdrawal of a bill sponsored by A. Belanger, Russell, which would have prohibited attendance of juveniles, whether in company of their parents or not, at theatres displaying films not passed by the Board as fit for children. The bill had another clause which would have raised the age limit for unaccompanied children from 15 to 16, and J. A. Pinard, in Mr. Belanger's absence, urged that this be enacted, but the Prime Minister thought that it was not worth while putting into legislation.

FRIDAY, MARCH 30TH—

THE LAST DAY. The second session of Ontario's Seventeenth Legislature closed, amid the usual bombardment of papers from the Press Gallery. The session was dull. Last year there was the Liquor Control Act to scrap over. This year there was no contentious legislation of such dimensions, although the thrice ill-starred Hawkers and Peddlers Bill caused a lot of heated argument before the Private Bills Committee, even if it got no distance at all in the House proper.

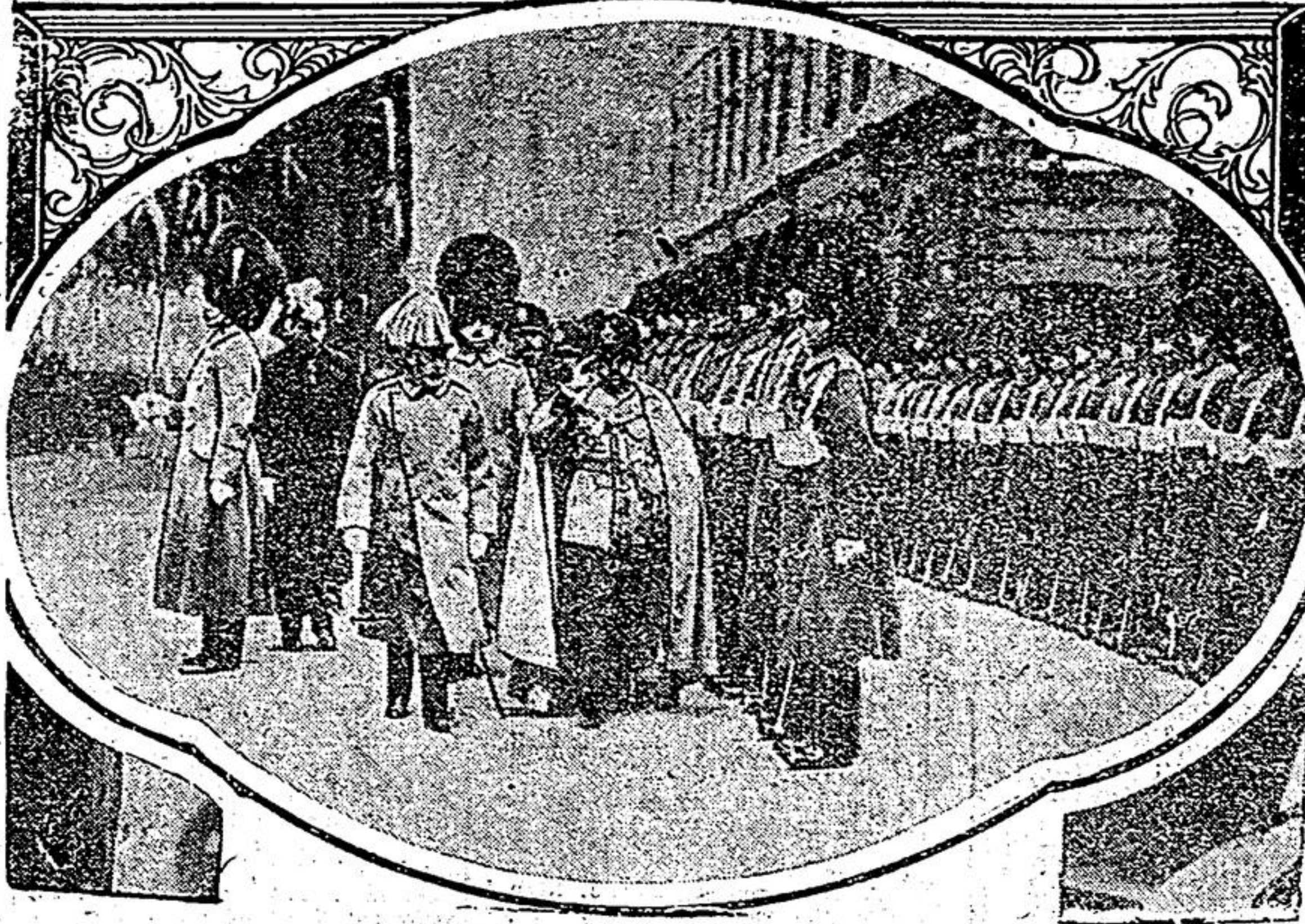
PROVIDED FIREWORKS.

One of the main features of the session was Liberal Leader Sinclair's "wandering ballots" revelation, which eventually had to be taken out of the hands of the Privileges and Elections Committee, because of partisan play in the ranks of that body, and transferred to a Royal Commission for a solution. While this inquiry undoubtedly provided the most fireworks of the session, Premier Ferguson's announcement of the chairmanship of the Research Foundation which the Province will establish, in conjunction with Ontario manufacturing interests, carried with it, perhaps, more actual importance than anything else during the sitting.

Considerable legislation with far-reaching effects went through, such as Attorney-General Price's Security Frauds Prevention Act, and its companion measures, an act to amend the Companies Act and the Companies Information Act; Hon. Lincoln Goldie's Hospital Act amendment, and Premier Ferguson's Research Foundation and Training of Apprentices Acts.

Sportsmen have some satisfaction in knowing that, after biological studies now being undertaken by the Department of Game and Fisheries are

Old Soldiers Will Ask Why the Salute? We Can't Say



The visiting ruler of Afghanistan accompanied His Majesty King George V in the inspection of the smart guard of honor at Victoria Station, London. The Eastern Potentate appears to be saluting the camera.

EMPIRE SHOPPING WEEK

Plans All Laid and all Classes Behind Drive to Boost "Empire Contained" Business

BUY BRITISH

The vastness and unity of the British Empire are two things difficult for the average person to realize. In thinking of the Empire, most people think first of Great Britain, Canada, Australia, India, South Africa and New Zealand. Unfamiliar places with curious names, seen only once or twice perhaps over a period of years escape general notice. Yet these also form stout links in the great chain of Empire.

They are all sharing in Empire Shopping Week in Canada, April 21st to 28th, for the Executive Committee of Empire Shopping Week have seen to it that every part of the British Empire is invited to participate in the great effort.

Briefly stated, one main purpose of Empire Shopping Week in Canada is to stimulate the purchase and sale of Empire produce and manufactures in Canada. An ample press coverage on inspirational and economic lines is being arranged and window streamers and showcards for retailers are being developed. Produced in Canada is a recognized principle in Empire Shopping Week that the products of the country in which the Week is held should be favored first—then the products of other parts of the Empire. It rests, therefore, with individual Canadian producers and manufacturers in other parts of the Empire to create for themselves—with the willing help of many local organizations, the best retail and advertising link-up they can—with the general educational and publicity campaign of the Empire Shopping Week in Canada. The Executive Committee and local committees welcome ideas and suggestions by which the Committee can co-operate with individual advertisers.

In other places where "Weeks" have been held, local committees have successfully carried on window displays, contests, parades of decorated floats, fancy dress balls, and many other special features.

Empire Shopping Weeks are not a novelty. They have been tried with great success in other parts of the Empire, notably in Australia, British West Indies, and in Great Britain. Imports from foreign countries into Canada rose since 1914 from \$298,000,000 to \$800,000,000 in 1927—62 per cent. increase in the last five years—thus constituting an excellent immediate reason for considering the present movement opportune.

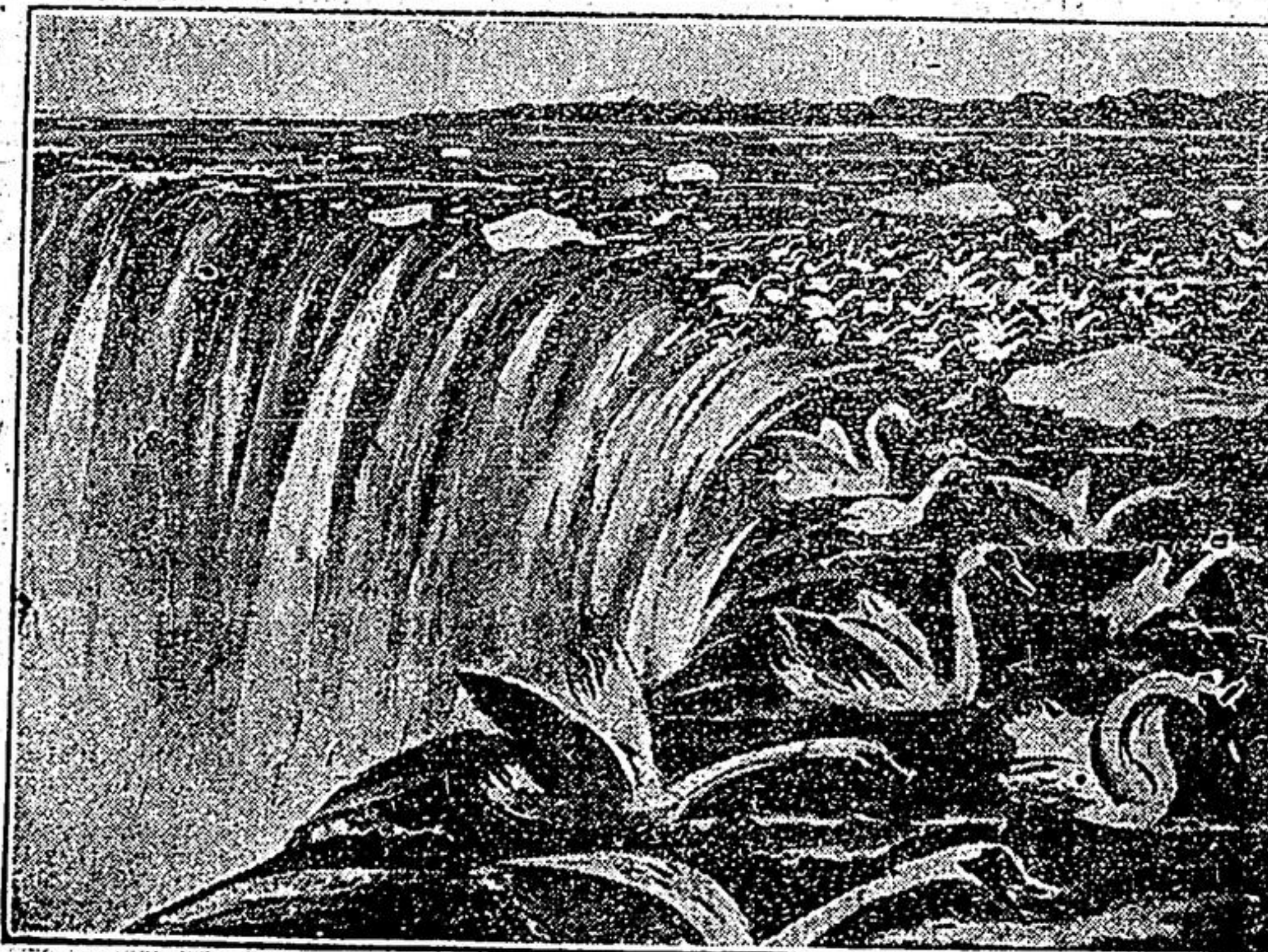
The Advisory Council of Empire Shopping Week in Canada holds strongly to the view—that the type of civilization and its promise of development as shown in countries of the British Empire—is one that Canadians desire to encourage for the sake of the present and the future generations. All this, it is conceived, is intimately bound up with the economic and business side of affairs—that play so great a part in the daily lives of so many Canadian citizens.

Get behind the movement—buy British goods.

Long Flights

London Daily Telegraph (Cons.): With the coming of spring and better weather conditions there will inevitably be a recrudescence of attempts by courageous men and women to make very long flights, and it cannot be too strongly emphasized that, in the best interests of air travel, those who are inclined to risk their lives needlessly for the sake of notoriety should be forcibly restrained from attempting journeys which there is little or no chance of bringing to a successful issue. An incalculable amount of damage to the cause of aviation was done last season by a few men and women who insisted, in the face of all expert advice, on throwing their lives away to satisfy an explicable personal caprice.

600 Swans Killed in "Ride" Over Niagara Falls



HUNDREDS OF OTHERS INJURED AND RESCUED. According to the latest estimate at least 600 wild swans were killed and hundreds of others injured when they were swept over the Horseshoe falls recently. The birds had alighted above the falls and all efforts to frighten them were in vain. Several hundred were rescued by William "Red" Hill and other rivermen, game wardens and officers of the Victoria Park Commission. The injured birds are being cared for by the commission until they can be sent to Jack Miner's sanatorium at Kingsville. A carload of bodies was taken from the river. Hundreds of spectators lined the Canadian boulevard to watch the rescue efforts. While there they witnessed another tragedy when a large flock of these strange birds became bewildered and flew into the cataract. The drawing shows the wild swans battling the torrents on the brink of the falls. Those who fell in their struggle for life were swept over the falls backwards.

Flood Cost On Los Angeles

City Assumes Big Task of Re-habilitating Santa Clara Valley

Los Angeles—Having acknowledged through Mayor George Cryer its "moral responsibility" for the fatalities and loss of property in the St. Francis dam collapse, the city of Los Angeles has assumed the task of making restitution to the valley.

The Mayor, who spoke in behalf of the municipality at a conference of city councilmen and other officials, did not say to what length the city would go in restoring the valley, but the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce announced it would propose to the council a rehabilitation program, based on an estimate of \$1,000,000 property damage. This is at least \$4,000,000 below the lowest estimate of the damage.

The number of persons left without homes, food or clothing, stood at 763, with relief organizations taking care of that number. Official figures from Ventura County showed 273 homes in the Santa Clara River Valley alone had been wiped out, in addition to numberless small homes in the groves immediately below the dam. Hundreds of acres of orange and lemon groves were buried under the silt.

The plan of the Chamber of Commerce for rehabilitation calls for \$1,000,000 being made immediately available in the City Council for reconstruction; a commission of Los Angeles' business men to direct the project, and division of the work into three classes—restoration of orchard and farm regions, rebuilding of business, industrial and residence property and relief of flood sufferers.

The work of repairing the highway and railroad throughout the valley is under way.

Lakes to Sea Service May 1

Ocean Freighters to Run Between Chicago and West Indies

Milwaukee, Wis.—Ocean freighters, plying between the West Indies and Great Lakes ports, including Chicago, Milwaukee, Buffalo, and Michigan cities, are to be placed in operation beginning May 1 by the American Shipping Co. of New York, according to announcement here.

The freighters will be of type suitable to travel through the Great Lakes canals and the St. Lawrence River. They will be able to carry approximately 2,000 tons of freight to the inland ports and nearly double this tonnage on the return trip after clearing the fresh waterways. Refrigerator service will be provided.

The proposed sailing schedule calls for boats in and out of the various Great Lakes ports at least once a week, it is explained. When business so warrants the service will be extended to South American ports.

Premier Denies Press Report

Ottawa—The Canadian Premier, W. L. Mackenzie King, denied in the House of Commons the accuracy of reports that Canada had threatened to discontinue negotiations with the United States on the St. Lawrence waterways project unless severe demands are met. The reports, printed in the Toronto Globe, purported to be a summary of the last Canadian note. The newspaper account said that Canada had demanded discussion of the desirability of lowering the tariff on certain Canadian products, including wheat and livestock, the waiving by the United States of all claim to the exportation of power obtained from the St. Lawrence project, and settlement of the Chicago water diversion controversy, as prior requisites to the resumption of negotiations.

TRY TO BLOW UP SHIP THREE TIMES IN VAIN

London—The third attempt by a moving picture company to blow up the schooner Amy in the English Channel to complete its film story of Britain's famous "Q. Ships," which laid traps for the German submarines, failed recently because, according to seafaring men, she is either haunted or has a charmed life.

The seamen said that it was unlucky to remove her old figurehead of a woman clasping a bunch of flowers, now on view in a Weymouth hotel.

"No vessel ever sunk without her figurehead," said an old salt. The Amy was towed to midchannel accompanied by naval vessels. The officers placed a charge in the spot where it was convenient to sink her, but trouble began when the electric leads between the Amy and the tug parted twice.

The schooner's decks and sails were then soaked with kerosene, flares were laid and the crew abandoned her, but still she refused to burn. A submarine afterwards cruised around the schooner to make sure that the fires were out. The demolition crew was ordered to return but refused and the movie company had to tow her back to Portland. She is still there, lying defiantly at anchor.