

CAPITOL  
NOW SHOWING  
Eleanor Boardman  
Conrad Nagel  
"So This Is Marriage"

# The Daily British Whig

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Handicap

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## Native Wine Tax of 50 Cents and Beer Tax of 10 Cents on the Gallon

### THE TAXES ON BEVERAGES ANNOUNCED IN LEGISLATURE

Supplemental Estimates of \$3,840,822—Queen's University Grant Is \$310,000—\$66,000 Additional For Sessional Indemnities—Dr. Jamieson on Agricultural Conditions.

Toronto, April 1.—The details of beverage tax announced in the budget speech were brought down in the Legislature yesterday afternoon by Hon. W. H. Price, provincial treasurer.

Stripped of technical terms the tax means that 4.4 beer is to be taxed 10 cents a gallon; soft drinks containing up to one per cent. alcoholic volume, five cents a gallon, and native wines 50 cents a gallon. The tax on the wine was a surprise. By the method of taxation the tax is placed on the consumer, but the manner of collection is left to regulation and is not covered in the bill.

Further supplementary estimates to the amount of \$3,840,822 were brought down. Under the heading "Legislation" is an item of \$66,000 for sessional indemnities, etc. This is for the increased indemnities for members. The major items in the estimates are: Premier's department \$1,000,000, and education, \$1,623,664. In the former the vote is for hydro, for work in the Chippawa, such as completion of development units and transformer stations. There is \$100,000 for the Georgian Bay system, and \$800,000 for Thunder Bay. There are grants to the universities as follows: Toronto, \$935,626; Queen's, \$310,000; Western, \$250,000. Other big items are: Boys' school at Bowmanville; \$200,000; Sudbury court house, \$40,000; mothers' allowances, \$100,000; Queen Alexandra sanitarium, London, \$50,000 for building purposes if an equal amount is raised by other means, and the institution is to be open to all patients from Ontario; Canadian National Institute for the Blind, \$25,000.

**Agriculture Survey.**  
The House debated the report of the special committee on agriculture and its recommendation. Dr. Jamieson (Conservative, South Grey) who was chairman of that committee, made a comprehensive survey of agricultural conditions in the province, touching on hydro power, freight rates, rural depopulation, and markets. The latter question he thought the greatest confronting the farmers of Ontario to-day.

**A. Belanger (Liberal, Russell)** who was also a member of the committee, said that there was too much uniformity in school courses in rural and urban schools. He did not think the teaching of technical agriculture necessary in the lower schools, but contended that their literature and general curriculum should be more adapted to country life. Examinations, he said, should not be the same in city and country.

The debate was based particularly on a resolution asking the House to concur in the following recommendations of the committee: That the railways be asked to reduce the minimum rates on mixed cars containing cattle with other stock; that they be asked to reduce the rates on feeder cattle when carried from public stock yards to farms.

Dr. Jamieson was of the opinion, that portable farm lighting units, while satisfactory, were beyond the means of the ordinary farmer owing to the outlay involved in the first place. He stated that the committee had received a proposition for the generation of power by the use of windmills, and he thought that a scheme might be devised whereby the municipality and the Government could advance the money for the purpose on loan to the farmer. Dealing with reforestation, Dr. Jamieson regretted the export of small trees for the Christmas season, and suggested that an embargo should be raised against such cutting.

**Freight Rates.**  
Dr. Jamieson dealt at some length with freight rates, and, although admitting it was a federal problem, he thought the publicity from the committee and the talk in the House would assist. He referred particularly to the Atlantic shipping combine, stating that the committee had received complaints that the rates were so high that all the profit from Canadian cattle export trade was diverted from the producer. Dr.

Jamieson said he did not propose to comment on the attempt being made by the Federal Government to combat the combine, as there seemed to be a strong opinion both ways as to the wisdom of the step.

"At any rate," he declared, "the agricultural committee can claim the credit of stirring up the federal Government. It seems to me that the Government, being the owner of 55 steamships, should have been a strong factor in controlling North Atlantic rates, but it is understood that these same Government steamers entered into and formed part of the combination in the maintenance of high rates."

Dr. Jamieson said that he believed that the time was coming when the Government would find it necessary to care for the health of all people, and provide for medical attendance and nursing just with the same care as they now provide for the education of all children in the province. He pointed out that there was a rapidly growing number of small hospitals in the province doing admirable work. He said he had been assured by the Minister of Health that the interests of small hospitals would be safeguarded by arranging that they affiliated with some larger provincial hospital, where nurses for the smaller institutions could be trained.

**Better Marketing.**  
Mr. Jamieson pointed out the necessity for co-operation and better marketing among the farmers, especially in Britain, which was the most critical market in the world. Most other agricultural countries of the world, he said, had systems of co-operative marketing. It was clear, however, that the farmers must be co-operatively organized before they could be aided in any large way by the state. The slogan of co-operation was better farming, better living and better business. Dr. Jamieson referring to interviews with the retailers throughout the province, said they were complaining of the inroads made by department stores and mail order houses, and if their views were correct it would mean the closing of many retail shops and permit business to become concentrated in the hands of half the number now operating.

A round table conference of all occupations and business classes had been called, and he hoped that such conference would bear fruit, as each now knew something of the viewpoint of the other. He also spoke of the necessity of tax reduction, and stated that if this were a poor country there might be some reason for pessimism.

"The solution of all our difficulties could be met with a call for more people to pay the taxes," he stated.

**Not Alarming.**  
Dr. Jamieson did not think that so-called rural depopulation was alarming, "as our agricultural production is increasing owing to improved scientific methods and the use of labor-saving machinery." He thought that there was a mistake in sending the brightest boys to the cities, as farming needed more education and ability than most city occupations.

Dr. Jamieson in concluding said that the greatest problem was that of marketing, and that it would require the best brains in the province co-operating with other provinces and the Dominion to accomplish anything worth while. He pointed out that the United States by tariff had shut our farmers from its markets, "but we, members of the great British family, also have everything within ourselves, and there is no reason why we should not take a leaf out of the book of the United States and live amongst ourselves."

A bill to amend the optometry act provides that the board of optometry may make arrangements with any recognized college for courses of study for qualification as optometrists.

The Minister of Agriculture introduced a bill reducing the grant to individual horticultural societies from \$800 to \$600, thus permitting a greater spread of the total grant of \$20,000.

### BILL TO CURB HASTY MARRIAGES OF YOUTHS

Toronto, April 1.—The legal committee of the legislature yesterday afternoon reported the bill sponsored by E. R. Wigie, Centre Huron, by way of amendment to the Marriage Act. It provides for proof of age of both parties upon application of either for a license, and fixes a penalty up to \$100 for anyone solemnizing a marriage within three days after the license is issued.

"The whole object," Mr. Wigie explained, "is to curb hasty marriages among the youths."

### SPEAKER LEMIEUX HAD TO CAST VOTE

To Defeat Motion of Progressive on Which the Vote Was Tie.

Ottawa, April 1.—In the Commons yesterday afternoon Donald F. Kellner, Progressive member for Edmonton East, moved a resolution to the effect that whatever time was left unoccupied by the business of private members of the hour allotted to them on Tuesdays and Fridays, from eight to nine, should be devoted to public bills and orders. This did not meet with the approval of the government, and the Hon. Ernest Lapointe, minister of justice, on behalf of the government, refused to accept it. Several of the Progressive members forced a division and the vote was taken. The Conservatives and Progressives voted solidly against the government, with the exception of T. G. McBride, Progressive member for Carleton Place, and J. W. Findlay, Progressive member for Bruce South, both of whom voted for the government. The result was 33 for the resolution and 93 against. Amidst general excitement, Speaker Lemieux gave his casting vote against the Kellner resolution.

### PETERSEN CONTRACT COMMITTEE APPOINTED

Progressive Member Says Companies Work Successfully on Free Trade Basis.

Ottawa, April 1.—After some of the liveliest recommitments of the present session, the House yesterday appointed the committee which is to consider the Petersen contract. As the motion went through the membership of fifteen, as originally proposed by Premier King, was unchanged, but it was adopted with an understanding that one of the regular Progressives will retire and give place to a representative of the new Independent group of thirteen. The authority of the committee also is enlarged. It will now be empowered to consider not only the Petersen contract, but any other method that offers effective control of ocean rates.

J. F. Johnston, Progressive member for East Mountain, resumed the debate on the budget. He was glad that the government had withdrawn the amendment to the dumping clause, and his only wonder was that such an amendment had ever been proposed.

"In my opinion, protection breeds trouble and tends to mistrust in governments," said Mr. Johnston. The protective system had proven a failure as a means of bringing prosperity to this country, he argued. Canada, under protection, had not enjoyed the growth which this country should have experienced. He pointed out that reductions had taken place in prices of agricultural implements since the present Government had decreased the tariff on these implements.

Mr. Johnston gave instances of companies working in Canada successfully on a free trade basis.

### Hope of Rescuing Entrapped Miners Virtually Abandoned

Newcastle, Eng., April 1.—A new pump with capacity of a thousand gallons a minute was expected to be working at the Montagne colliery, Scotland, today, but the crews attempting to rescue 33 miners trapped by the flood in the pit on Monday, believe that even with this machine it may take weeks to pump the water out. Hope of rescue was virtually abandoned yesterday.

### PETER SMITH TO GIVE EVIDENCE ON HOME BANK COMMISSIONS

Toronto, April 1.—On recommendation of Hon. W. H. Price, provincial treasurer, the public accounts committee of the legislature this morning accepted the motion of W. E. N. Sinclair, Liberal leader, that Clarence Smith, Casey Wood, R. P. Gough and M. J. Haney, Home Bank directors, and Peter Smith, former provincial treasurer, now in Portsmouth penitentiary, and Charles Matthews, former assistant treasurer, also in penitentiary, be called as witnesses to tell what they know about Home Bank commissions. Mr. Price said he thought no new evidence could be brought out, but the government would block no member getting evidence, even although no direct charges had been made.

### FURTHER EVIDENCE OVER BOND DEALS

Given Before the Public Accounts Committee—Major Nash Is Examined.

Toronto, April 1.—At the Ontario public accounts committee meeting this morning, a letter from Mr. Browning of Hamilton stated that George H. Harris would be present on Thursday to give evidence concerning the bond deals with the Provincial Securities Company, which investigation is being continued from where it left off last year.

### VERY DIFFICULT TASK FACED BY CHURCHILL

Not in Such a Favorable Position as Snowden for Taxation Relief.

London, April 1.—When about a month hence Winston Churchill, Chancellor of the Exchequer, makes his budget statement to parliament he will be in nothing like such a favorable position to carry out his taxation relief as was his predecessor, Philip Snowden, in 1924. The national accounts a year ago showed a balance of revenue over expenditure of approximately \$48,000,000. This year the corresponding balance is only about \$3,568,000.

The figures for the year are: Revenue, \$799,435,595; expenditures, \$795,776,711, compared with the previous year—revenue \$837,169,234; expenditures \$787,840,211. Thus there is a decrease in the national revenue of nearly \$38,000,000, and an increase in expenditure of roughly \$7,000,000.

Any relief Mr. Churchill is able to propose will, of course, depend upon his estimated surplus for the coming year, but he can have little hope of reducing the expenditure while the prospects of big trade are not bright.

### Britain Is Getting Wetter And Wetter

London, April 1.—Great Britain is getting wetter and wetter, according to figures compiled by the United Kingdom Alliance, a big prohibitionist organization. In a report just issued, the alliance asserts that during 1924 the total beer bill of the country was \$198,000,000 against an expenditure for milk of \$76,000,000. The Alliance also figures that the total spent on all intoxicants in 1924 amounted to \$316,000,000 as compared with \$207,000,000 in 1923.

John Vermet, the four-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Vermet, was burned to death as he lay in his bed during a fire at Cache Bay, Ont., causing \$60,000 property loss.

### Succeeds Sir Joseph Pope

Will Not Abandon Railway Extension

Premier Ferguson Blames C.P.R. and Sir Henry Thornton Over Quebec Opposition.

Toronto, April 1.—The Toronto Telegram to-day publishes the following: "Discussing the opposition which has developed in Quebec against the construction of the T. & N. O. railway branch to Rouyn gold fields in Quebec province, Premier Ferguson stated that he believed Cyril Young, Ontario superintendent of lands for the C. P. R. and Sir Henry Thornton are behind Quebec's agitation."

In reply to a question whether the Ontario government would have to abandon the proposed extension, Premier Ferguson answered in the negative, says the Telegram.

Is Premier of Prussia. Berlin, April 1.—Dr. Hermann Hoepker-Asohoff, Democrat, was elected premier of the Prussian Government, succeeding Dr. Wilhelm-



DR. O. D. SKELTON. Who has been appointed to the position of Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs. He succeeds Sir Joseph Pope, whose retirement became effective to-day. Dr. Skelton was formerly professor of political economy in Queen's University.

### AN ADDITIONAL \$100,000 GIVEN QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY

By the Ontario Legislature—It Is For "Arrears" Capital Account—The Maintenance Grant Voted Queen's Is \$210,000, the Same As Was Given Last Year.

The Ontario legislature grant to Queen's university, as provided in the supplementary estimates brought down on Tuesday afternoon by Hon. W. H. Price, provincial treasurer, is \$310,000.

When asked on Wednesday as to whether this was not an increase, Dr. W. E. McNeill, university registrar, told the Whig that it was \$100,000 more than granted last year, when the legislative grant was \$210,000, but the additional \$100,000 was not for maintenance. It was given to Queen's in the way of what the government was pleased to call "arrears" for capital account. Dr. McNeill explained that the royal commission appointed five years ago by the Ontario Govern-

### UNANIMOUSLY DECIDE TO POOL ROAD MONEY

The Frontenac County Reeves Pass the By-law at Their Wednesday Session.

The Frontenac county council, by a unanimous vote at its Wednesday morning session, decided to adopt the pooling system for the money which will be expended on the roads in the good roads system. For the past fifteen months the question has been a very live one and the vote was a great surprise to many of the ratepayers.

Reeves J. Edward Freeman and David Barr, who represent townships which are included in the county good roads system, led the attack against the passing of the by-law during the discussion which took place on Tuesday evening and Wednesday morning. It had been expected that when the final vote was taken on the third reading of the by-law, the vote would have been close, but, to the surprise of all, Reeves Freeman rose to his feet and stated that he was prepared to give the new system a trial for one year. Mr. Freeman stated that R. C. Muir, chief engineer of municipal roads, had made it so clear to him that the township of Portland would be taken care of; therefore he was satisfied to vote in favor of the passing of the by-law. He stated that if during the year the scheme proves unsatisfactory, and he was sitting around the county council board, the members would hear him denounce the system.

The by-law, which rescinds the one which has been in operation for some years, calls for the appointment of a committee of five men, who, with the engineer of the county, will have charge of expending the money on the roads which are included in the good roads system. The townships will be allowed to raise the money in their townships and the same will be expended in the townships, but the subsidy money from the Ontario government must be pooled, and will be spent by the committee of five which will be appointed by council.

When the second reading of the by-law was presented, the council went into committee of the whole, with Reeves R. A. Hamilton in the chair. It was moved and seconded that the by-law be read clause by clause, and the warden declared the motion carried. However, Councilor Barr presented an amendment to the effect that the reading of the by-law be allowed to stand over. His amendment was declared out of order.

### FINDLEY STATION ROAD DIVERSION

Being Looked Into by an Engineer of the Dominion Railway Board.

Official notification was received by the county road superintendent on Tuesday evening that an engineer employed by the Dominion Railway Board would be at Findley Station on Wednesday for the purpose of going into the question of the siding question, which was considered by the county council at the December session.

R. H. Fair, county road superintendent, and R. C. Muir, chief engineer for municipal roads, motored to Findley Station for the purpose of meeting the engineer.

It is expected that the railway board engineer will go into the question of the road diversion at this point, instead of the placing of the wig-wag and the bell at the C. N. R. crossing which was requested by the county council.

ment had made certain recommendations regarding increased grants to the universities of the province, but a former government had not seen its way clear to accept all the recommendations. Now, however, the government had decided to give the universities additional amounts to apply as "arrears" towards capital account.

Queen's, during the past few years, has paid a good deal out of its capital account, and the additional \$100,000 now given by the legislature will simply be put back into that account to take the place of the amounts that have been paid out on buildings.

A special hospital grant of \$80,000 is also made by the legislature to Queen's University.

### WOLFE ISLAND MAY ENTER ROAD SYSTEM

Half Cost of Ferry Steamer Maintenance Would Be Paid by Government.

R. C. Muir, chief engineer of municipal roads, when asked by Dr. William Spankie as to what the province would be prepared to do for Wolfe Island, providing the township decided to enter the good roads system, replied that half the cost of the maintenance of the steamer Wolfe Island would be paid.

Although the Wolfe Island council has not decided as yet to go into the good road system, there is a possibility that it will in the near future. The cost of maintaining the steamer Wolfe Island is very heavy, and the township council tries if possible to make the boat self-supporting.

If the island entered the good roads system the ferry route would be considered a part of the system and the government allows 50 per cent. of the cost of upkeep.

It is understood that the Ontario Highway Department is very anxious to see Wolfe Island in the County Roads system as it wishes a first-class road to be built across the island. If this road was constructed it would mean that a large number of tourists who are at the present time entering Canada at different points would come over by way of Capt. Vincent, N.Y., taking the ferry between the American side and the south shore of the island and then taking the new county road as far as the village where they would board the steam Wolfe Islander.

The highway department considers the tourist trade one of the great industries of the province, and intends to do everything possible to encourage it.

### REEVE MAKES ESCAPE IN NIGHT ATTIRE

Eastview, Ont., April 1.—Fire breaking out about two o'clock this morning caused damage estimated at \$25,000 to the residence and dry goods store of Reeves Leon Peterson, who was forced to make a hurried flight in his night attire from the burning building.

Reeves Peterson, chief engineer for municipal roads, motored to Findley Station for the purpose of meeting the engineer.

It is expected that the railway board engineer will go into the question of the road diversion at this point, instead of the placing of the wig-wag and the bell at the C. N. R. crossing which was requested by the county council.