

URGES LIFTING RESTRICTION ON NICKEL TRADE

Sudbury Member Declares
Wartime Impositions Have
Crippled Industry.

DRURY DEFENDS STAND

Answers Casselman, Who
Would Bonus Private Hydro-
Electric Enterprises.

TORONTO, March 23.—Provincial finances were discussed by four members of the Legislature this afternoon and tonight at the sessions of the Ontario Legislature, and at 10:30 the house went into committee to fill out the day.

Outstanding in today's debate was the demand of Charles McCrae, Conservative member for Sudbury, for the lifting of wartime impositions on the nickel industry of the north country, which Mr. McCrae pointed out was in almost dormant condition. Before Ontario nickel could regain its status among items of potential wealth, the Sudbury member said, new usages adapted to peace conditions must be found for it.

For the government, J. M. Webster (U. F. O., West Lambton) followed with a defence of Provincial Treasurer Smith's bookkeeping methods and his surplus, and declared that the attacks thereon were

Viennese Miracle Man Pits Tender Cunning Against Nature and Wins

DETROIT, Mich., March 23.—The supreme skill of Dr. Adolf Lorenz, Viennese miracle man, was put to the ultimate test in the Receiving Hospital here today.

Dripping perspiration and with tousled grey hair, he pitted his tender cunning and terrific strength against nature gone awry—and he conquered.

Thrilled spectators defied silence orders and chattered excitedly when the great surgeon, after an hour of unceasing effort wiped his beaded brow and said in commonplace tones:

"It is like a sculptor working in clay—we are all clay anyhow—you see, now it is fixed."

Before their eyes he had taken the pitiful club foot of Ruth Coons, simply a reiteration of the annual opposition criticisms.

Arouses Storm.

W. A. Crockett (Labor, South West-worth) aroused a small storm when in defending the government and Hon. D. Carmichael from criticism in regard to Chippawa expenditures he intimated that the minister, an honest man, was associated with others of a "different calibre."

Another interesting item in Mr. Crockett's deliverance was a statement that the government would not doubt soon deal with the question of Sir Adam Beck's resignation. Premier Drury and Hon. D. Carmichael both stated afterwards that the statement had no significance, as far as the government was concerned, and could not be regarded as an official intimation of pending action.

Mr. Crockett said he hoped that the government would take a deeper and bigger interest in the north country whose potentialities in mineral wealth were greater than any other section of the world.

Points To Quebec

In pointing out the dangers of retarding north country developments by excessive taxation, Mr. McCrae stressed the competition which the province of Quebec was now affording Ontario in the matter of industry. It was a fact, he said, that Quebec was attracting industrial capital more readily than was the province of Ontario. Instability in the matter of taxation, he declared, had a very deterrent effect upon capital.

Concluding, Mr. McCrae expressed the conviction that the people were everywhere concerned over the in-

crease of expenditures of the province.

J. W. Webster took no stock in the "blue ruin" shouts of the financiers in discussing rural credits. He quoted the provincial treasurer of Manitoba, to the effect that the Prairie Province had not lost a dollar in connection with its advances to rural sections and did not expect to do so.

It might be, he said, that in the years to come, long years, he rather thought, another government might supplant the present one. But in any event, the working people of the province, the farmers and the laborers, would never again consent to leave their parliamentary representation in the hands of individuals not intimate with their industrial needs.

Absolves Government.

W. H. Crockett, dealing with Chippawa matters, absolved the government from responsibility in connection with expenditures, and intimated that Hon. D. Carmichael, who was honest and straightforward, had had to accept the representations of other members of a different calibre.

Objection was taken by Dr. Forbes Godfrey and M. M. MacBride to the last remark, but the speaker finally ruled that there was no implication of dishonesty on the part of anybody in Mr. Crockett's remarks. The matter dropped after one further interesting passage, when, in reply to Dr. Godfrey's question as to whether the government had not the right to demand Sir Adam Beck's resignation, Mr. Crockett said that "there is no doubt that some such action will be taken, probably in the near future."

C. Mageau (Liberal, Sturgeon Falls), who spoke briefly before moving the adjournment of the debate, declared that so far as he personally was concerned, he had received fair and generous treatment from the government of the day. He contrasted their non-partisan attitude toward North County necessities to that of the Conservative party when in power.

Seemed To Disagree.

So long and interesting a discussion broke forth over what seemed like a mild disagreement or misunderstanding between Premier Drury and one of the government supporters, W. H. Casselman from Dundas, that the debate on the budget did not get started until after 5 o'clock, when Charles McCrae of Sudbury continued his criticism of the government's financing for the last year.

The misunderstanding was in regard to a bill Mr. Casselman proposed to introduce, making the government grant given to low-power transmission lines carrying hydro electric energy to the farmers also apply where the current is supplied by a private corporation.

He claimed the hydro was not in a position to compete in most sections of Eastern Ontario with the private companies, and that unless the grant applied to private companies it would be of no use in that section of the province. He claimed the premier had promised the government would get behind this bill, but was now failing to come to its support.

Premier Drury replied that he had not promised to come to the support of the bill, that he had told Mr. Casselman that he was in sympathy with the bill, but had not satisfied himself that it would not result in government grants going to swell the profits of private concerns. The bill will be printed and come before the house, but the speaker has intimated that it will be ruled out of order when it does come, not being a government measure.

Mr. Casselman said he had had several conversations with Premier Drury, and had explained that a private company operating in his part of the province was in a position to offer electric service at a very much lower rate than that offered by the hydro commission, and on a five-year contract which bound both sides, instead of a 20-year hydro contract.

which bound the farmer and not the commission.

Would Bonus Private Firms.

He therefore had prepared a bill which would provide that the same 50 per cent bonus on the construction of transmission lines given where the hydro electric commission supplied the power, should also be given where a private company supplied the power.

He blamed the premier for not coming to his assistance and making it a government bill, and asked the premier what he was going to do about it, and whether he was prepared to introduce a government bill along that line, for only by such method could any grants in transmission lines help the farmers of Eastern Ontario.

He argued that the farmers of that section of the province had been neglected in regard to government assistance in getting electric services.

Premier Drury said he was in sympathy with the bill, but until he made sure that adequate safeguards could be made, he would not promise to introduce such a bill, and seemed to think that there was small hope of such a bill being introduced by the administration this session.

Mr. Ferguson claimed there was a marked difference between the premier's promise to Mr. Casselman that the government would "get behind" his bill, and the present statement that he was sympathetic, but would not say whether the government would introduce one or not. He claimed the premier was trying to ride two horses. He thought the premier's action had put Mr. Casselman in a very embarrassing position in introducing his bill.

Repeats Explanation.

The premier repeated what he had said regarding the government considering the introduction of the bill, and Mr. Casselman repeating that his understanding was the premier

in conversation had definitely promised to get behind the bill.

Hon. F. C. Biggs and other members of the government side pointed out that Western Ontario farmers also suffered from high rates.

Hon. D. Carmichael explained that the 50 per cent grant had already been of great assistance in bringing electric energy to farmers, giving figures of the mileage, which brought the comment from G. S. Henry that he was glad to see that Col. Carmichael was evidently still acting on the hydro commission, and must have withdrawn his resignation.

The latter did not reply. The attorney-general announced that he proposed to have the bill ratifying the agreement in connection with the Shevlin-Clark litigation discussed in the house next Tuesday. H. H. Dewar pointed out that he considered the agreement an iniquitous one, and warned the government that it would be strenuously opposed.

Corrects Report.

J. Joynt (Conservative, Huron South) took occasion to deny a report in the Farmers' Sun, in which, after congratulating Minister of Agriculture Doherty as a live wire he was quoted to have said if there had been such a live wire as minister of agriculture in 1917 and 1918 the British embargo against Canadian cattle would have been lifted. He explained that what he did say was that if the Dominion of Canada had had a

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MOUNTED POLICE EXTEND ACTIVITY

OTTAWA, March 23.—A marked increase in the work of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police is noted in the report of the force just made

public by Commissioner A. E. Perry.

The total strength of the force, all ranks, is 1,680 men, an increase of nine over the year previous. The scope of the work in the report covers the entire Dominion. Particular importance is attached to activities in the Arctic regions.

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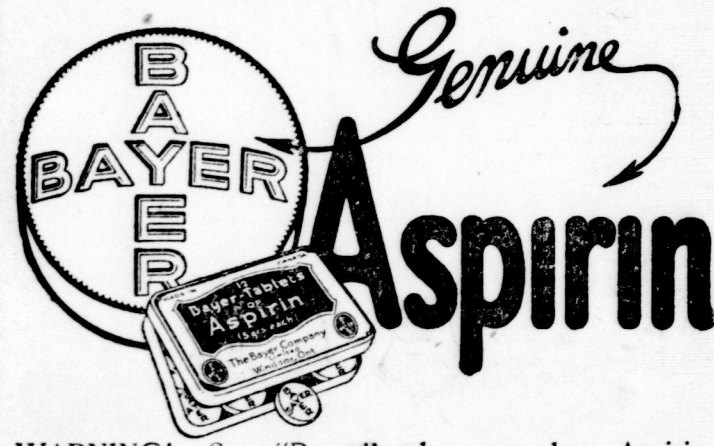
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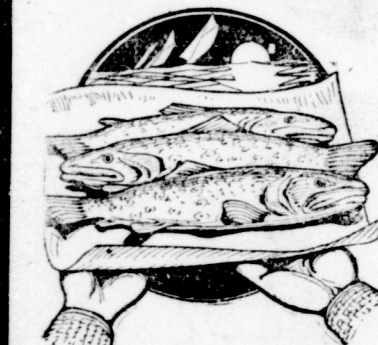
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