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London is Vitrally Affected by New Bill Proposed in Ontario Legislature—Any Orders Issued Would Be Binding For Five Years.

(Special to The Advertiser.)

Toronto, March 23.—Absolute control by the Ontario Railway and Municipal Board of electric railway fares throughout the whole province is proposed in a measure introduced for first reading into the Ontario Legislature today by Charles McCrea, Conservative member for Sudbury. The bill is similar to that proposed by Mr. McCrea at the last session, and which on that occasion was regarded as an effort to secure increased fares on the Toronto Street Railway. It is suggested on this occasion that the measure is directed at the electric railway situation in London.

Included in the terms of the bill are four important proposals. The first makes all electric railway fares subject to the approval of the Ontario Railway Board; the second makes it possible for the council of any municipality, with the approval of the board, to enter into agreement with a railway company without a vote of the people on matters affecting other than franchise rights.

The third, which would seem to particularly affect London, sets forth that 60 days after the board has taken possession of an electric railway, the municipal council and the company having failed to reach an agreement, the board shall, upon the application of either party, "make such orders as it deems just and reasonable," such order to be binding on both parties, subject to the right of either party to apply for a writ of certiorari.

The fourth proposal is that the board shall have the right to make such orders as it deems just and reasonable, such order to be binding on both parties, subject to the right of either party to apply for a writ of certiorari.

The bill when introduced will be known as the industrial rehabilitation act and besides providing for such medical treatment as the compensation board may deem necessary, will further provide re-education of the man who has been incapacitated and will also provide for assistance in securing suitable employment.

The proposed legislation also provides that these benefits shall be paid by the board out of the accident fund, and the necessary amount shall be included in assessment levied upon the employers.

W. H. Casselman, Dundas, and Major Toimie, Windsor, expressed opinion that the bill would be too late to become fully operative this year.

On motion of Major Toimie, seconded by Col. W. T. Price, the committee decided to recommend that the report be deferred until next session.

May Be Superannuated. An amendment was made today to the bill which provides that any municipality may superannuate a magistrate on his attaining the age of 70 years.

J. W. Curry, K.C., member for South-east Toronto, said that he had discussed the matter with Col. Denison, police magistrate of Toronto, and that he approved of his case being dealt with by means of legislation of this kind.

H. Hartley Dewar, K.C., Liberal leader, wanted to know if the attorney-general had any person in mind as a possible successor to Col. Denison. The attorney-general replied in the negative.

The member for Southwest Toronto was absolutely opposed to the bill, as he thought it was only adding to the centralization of power in the hands of the attorney-general. Hon. G. Howard Ferguson, looking in the direction of J. W. Curry, said the Legislature could not afford to lose a member at the present time.

The magistrates act was further amended so that the lieutenant-governor-in-council may make regulations for the appointment and remuneration of a shorthand writer in any city police court, and the said remuneration shall be paid by the corporation of the city.

Allowed To Proceed. While answering J. A. Pinard (West Ottawa) as to the number of applications made by J. W. Curry, K.C. (South-east Toronto) for remission of fines or sentences under the Ontario temperance act, Hon. W. E. Raney read a communication he had received from the chairman of the board of license commissioners.

Already this session, Hon. Nelson Parliament, speaker of the Legislature, had ruled that ministers were entitled to answer the questions and proceed no further. Hon. Thomas Crawford, who this afternoon was acting speaker, ruled that the attorney-general was entitled to read the Flavelle memorandum in so far as it was upon the memorandum that he had founded his reply to the member for Ottawa.

Hon. W. E. Raney, in his answer, had said that no record was kept of such cases as Mr. Pinard was inquiring about, and that it would take months to secure the information required.

Having said this, the attorney-general read his communication from Mr. Flavelle, in which the chairman of the license board stated that he believed that the percentage of cases for which Mr. Curry claimed clemency was lower than the average among all the lawyers.

Ferguson Objects. Hon. G. Howard Ferguson contended that the answer was not an answer at all and should not be allowed to go on the records of the House.

The prime minister said that many of the questions asked by members were for the purpose of securing a definite piece of information but were of an "exploratory nature." The member for Ottawa would ask for a return of the facts he would get it.

"After all, the House controls the Government, and the House represents the people," said Hon. G. Howard Ferguson. "Members of this House are responsible to the people and are entitled to the information, no matter how long it takes to secure it."

Again the attorney-general said that it would be utterly impossible to ascertain the information before prorogation.

Not Asking Much. Mr. Pinard said that he was not asking for very much information. He only wanted to know of matters "from the time my friend (J. W. Curry, K.C.) was ready, body and soul, to help the Farmer Government."

Hon. G. Howard Ferguson gained his point in so far as the matter given by the attorney-general will not go on the record of the House. A return will be made to the House with the information desired.

Hon. W. E. Raney informed C. H. Buchanan (South Wellington) that the Government expected to pay Arthur Hawkes for services in connection with the hydro radial inquiry. The attorney-general said that Mr. Hawkes was engaged by Mr. Buchanan to assist him. The Government was paying Mr. Robertson and his assistants.

Benjamin Franklin said an empty sack cannot stand upright for a few days' time he will be arrested and charged with the murder of his wife. Louis, Crown Attorney Urquhart stated today. Two police officers are still keeping constant vigil over Warlow's bedside. The decision to place a formal charge of murder against Warlow was reached following the verdict of the coroner's jury.

S. A. C. Branch Closing. The Border Cities branch of the Soldiers' Aid Commission will be closed at the end of the month, according to an announcement made by Col. W. J. Douglas, officer in charge, today. Col. Douglas stated that offices in nearly all the cities and towns of Ontario were being closed. Officers are still maintained at Toronto, Ottawa, Hamilton and London. Decrease of work is the cause of closing of the office here.

Made Their Escape. Shots were exchanged between provincial police officers and occupants of an auto in Essex East Township. When the occupants discovered they were being followed they deserted the motor, making their escape through the corn fields. The police found a quantity of liquor in the auto, which bears a Michigan State license number.

Restrict Railway Entrance. That all railways should be required to enter the border cities to the south instead of along the riverfront, thus making available a considerable acreage for park purposes, is the suggestion being made by a number of prominent citizens.

The proposal would give the border cities the most attractive riverfront of any city on the continent. A union depot centrally located, to which all lines would converge, is also proposed in connection with the scheme. The matter is to be presented to the various municipal councils interested at an early date.

Opposed to Tax. Opposition was voiced at a meeting of the Walkerville Town Council to the proposed government tax of \$2 per horsepower on hydro-electric power.

The Walkerville Council made a grant of \$1,000 to the work of the Ontario Safety Council. The work being accomplished by this organization in the border cities was favorably commented upon by members of the town council.

Grand Trunk officials in a communication addressed to the town clerk of Walkerville express the view that the question of replacing the dangerous Peabody Bridge over the G. T. R. tracks on Sandwich street is entirely one to be dealt with by the town council of Walkerville.

At a meeting of the council it was decided to reopen the matter with the Grand Trunk officials, pointing out that they are also interested.

CEGAR SPRINGS, March 23.—At a representative meeting of the Cedar Springs Farmers' Club and the ratepayers an interesting discussion took place, after which the following resolution was carried:

To Hon. Mr. Biggs—"We, the members of the Cedar Springs Farmers' Club and the ratepayers of this district, protest the action of the present superintendent on that portion of the provincial highway extending from the limits of the town of Blenheim westward through the village of Cedar Springs to the Union Church, Parryville. We feel, sir, that he is not receiving sufficient work for the money expended, and therefore respectfully request you to give the matter thorough investigation. Signed on behalf of the club: Charles Crummer, president; A. H. Thompson, secretary."

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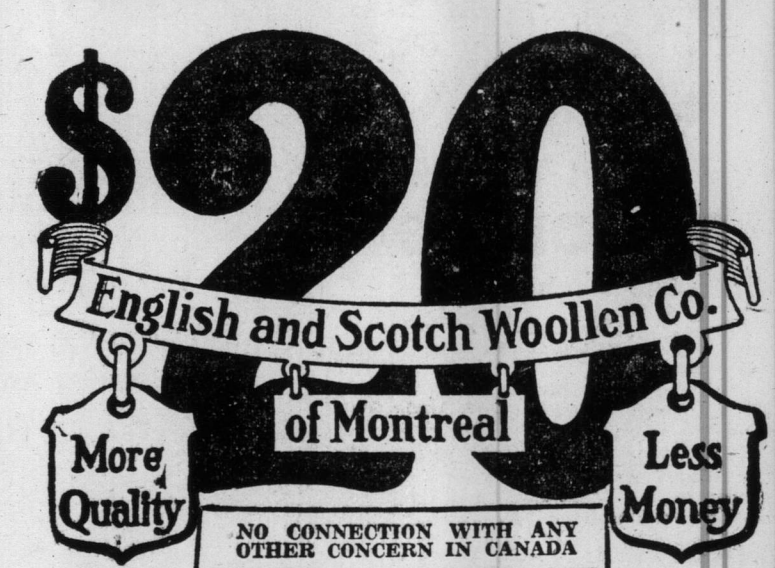
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