

THE LEGISLATURE WEEK BY WEEK

MONDAY, FEB. 27TH—

Frank W. Wilson took up the day with his "beer-by-the-glass" program.

TUESDAY, FEB. 28TH—

A division of the House on the Wilson resolution resulted in only four members voting in favor and 92 against. Inasmuch as the Prime Minister had asked the House to vote down the resolution, the Government must be credited with a majority on this occasion of 88, even although the division was not on party lines. The largest majority achieved last session was on a proposed amendment to the Corporations Tax Act, voted down: 85 to 15, only on non-party lines.

Voting with Mr. Wilson on the beer resolution were W. G. Weichel, his second; E. Proulx (Lib., Prescott), and T. Legault (Lib., Sturgeon Falls). J. A. Pinard (Lib., East Ottawa), having been informed that the debate was closed the day previous, and being therefore refused opportunity to state his position, absented himself from the division. There was a caucus of Government supporters before the House opened.

Feeling that the members of the Privileges and Elections Committee have taken up alignment from a party standpoint in the South Ottawa ballot enquiry, and that such feeling is not likely to bring the best results, Premier Ferguson announced in the Legislature that W. E. N. Sinclair, Liberal leader, had concurred in giving the investigation over to a Royal Commission. Mr. Justice Magee and Mr. Justice Hodgins, of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, have been requested to form the commission. The commission is now being prepared, and unless Their Lordships run into unexpected ramifications in connection with the case of the 19 stray ballots, their report will be made before the session closes. Incidentally, one judge before elevation to the bench was a Conservative and the other a Liberal.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 29TH—

Although the attitude of the Government is that the Liquor Control Act has not had a fair trial during the short time in operation, W. H. Price, Attorney-General, gave the Legislature copious statistics, official and press and private opinions, to show that there has been general improvement in conditions throughout the province; that public opinion is strongly behind the Liquor Control Act, and that with continued co-operation of the public there will be still further improvement. The Government is intent upon enforcing the new law, the Minister said, but deprecates the attitude of confirmed prohibitionists who clung desperately to the Ontario Temperance Act and now seek every opportunity to put the new measure in a bad light.

In his review (which took well over three hours) of the Liquor Control Act, for the first five months it was in force, Attorney-General Price furnished the following figures to the Legislature:

Sale of wine and spirits amounted to \$11,166,243; sale of beer, \$6,367,416, making total sales of \$17,533,659.

Received from breweries, distilleries, warehouses and from fines, \$272,165, making a total revenue of \$17,805,824.

Total cost of goods sold, \$14,110,337. Operating expenses and depreciation, \$890,727.

Net profit, \$2,804,760.

Permits issued from June 1st to October 31st, 1927, resident, 220,446; temporary, 53,890.

Permits issued from Nov. 1st, 1927, to Feb. 16th, 1928, resident, 269,172; temporary, 10,025.

Paid out in customs, excise and sales tax, \$4,871,941.

Gross profit on total sales, 10.5 per cent.

Number of liquor stores in operation in province, 78.

Number of permits issued to hospitals, physicians, druggists, etc., 281,889.

PROFIT AND LOSS OF GOVERNMENT SHOPS.

Sales of wines and spirits \$11,166,243

Sales of wine and spirits \$11,166,243.10

Sales of beer and spirits 6,367,416.31

Total Sales \$17,533,659.41

Other revenue from license fees, fines, etc. 272,165.20

Total revenue \$17,805,824.61

Deducted from this are cost of goods sold, operating expenses and depreciation \$15,001,064.86

Leaving net profit of \$ 2,804,760.25

Gross profit on total sales 19.5%

Net profit after deducting operating expenses and depreciation 14.5%

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NET PROFITS ALL L.C. BOARDS.

Newfoundland, 12 months \$ 388,508.97—38.5%

Quebec, 12 months \$4,421,335.35—23.2%

Manitoba, 12 months \$ 996,424.77—26.8%

Alberta, 12 months \$1,218,906.77—28.5%

Saskatchewan, 11 1/2 months \$1,976,865.64—24.0%

British Columbia, 12 months \$9,518,165.46—32.9%

Ontario, 5 months

\$2,532,505.06—14.5%

The traditional "humble address" to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor was adopted by the Legislature at 11 o'clock, after nearly three weeks of debate, and to it has been added what has become almost equally customary—a Government sub-amendment spurring out a critical amendment by the Opposition. The Government amendment was carried 68 to 27 on a straight party vote, and the Sinclair amendment upon the subject of old age pensions declared lost upon the same division. Seventeen Liberals, eight Progressives and the two U.F.O. members present made up the 27. Eight absent members were paired, and seven others evidently were not.

Nine members participated, afternoon and evening, in the debate, commencing with Russell Nesbitt, Bracondale. There followed C. A. Robertson (Liberal, North Huron), L. W. Oke (U.F.O., East Lambton), George Shields (Conservative, Woodbine), F. W. Paterson (Liberal, North York), F. J. Skinner (Conservative, Leeds), E. Proulx (Liberal, Prescott), Dr. Paul Poisson (Conservative, North Essex), and finally Premier Ferguson. The Progressives stayed out.

Hon. J. D. Monteith gave notice that he would move the House into committee of supply and committee of ways and means—in other words, the budget speech will be delivered.

THURSDAY, MARCH 1ST—

In bringing down to the Legislature his second Budget since he assumed office as Treasurer of Ontario, Hon. Dr. Joseph D. Monteith announced a balanced Budget and a surplus of \$359,000 for the fiscal year ending Oct. 31, 1927, and predicted that, in spite of probably lowered concession duties and another \$3,000,000 payment off the Provincial debt, a surplus of \$177,000 would be available when the current fiscal year comes to a close.

In his estimated revenue of \$55,790,000 for 1928, Dr. Monteith includes \$7,000,000 as receipts from the Ontario Liquor Board under Government sale of liquor. Expenditure for the year is placed at \$55,613,000.

The main points brought out were as follows:

A surplus of \$359,000 for 1927, replacing a period of deficits.

The sum of \$3,000,000 paid off debt in 1927.

Lowering of interest charges due to refunding at favorable rates.

Ordinary revenue highest in history of Province, \$56,306,029; increase of \$6,400,000 over 1926.

Policy of tax reduction still adhered to with no new imposts.

Relief to taxpayers in 1927, directly and indirectly, over \$5,000,000.

T. & N. O. Railway pays \$1,300,000 in interest to Treasury.

Hydro makes first payment off debt, and pays Treasury \$7,849,043 in interest.

Ontario Savings Offices and Farm Loan Boards show substantial surplus.

Net debt \$157,000,000.

Assets exceed liabilities by over \$33,000,000.

Payment of another \$3,000,000 off the debt in 1928.

1928 revenue, including \$7,000,000 from Liquor Control Board, estimated at \$55,790,000; expenditure estimated at \$55,613,000; surplus \$177,000.

Supplementary estimates tables with the introduction of Provincial Treasurer Monteith's second Budget total \$7,546,154.44.

By departments, the amounts to be voted are as follows: Prime Minister's, \$2,474,975; Legislation, \$4,400; Attorney-General's, \$19,915; Insurance, \$4,375; Education, \$2,066,151; Lands and Forests, \$120,000; Mines, \$6,483; Game and Fisheries, \$12,496; Public Works, \$1,592,089.34; Highways, \$4,275; Health, \$42,150; Labor, \$169,000; Provincial Treasurer's, \$19,550; Provincial Auditor's, \$502,326.10; Agriculture, \$120,325; and Miscellaneous, \$67,945.

SEVEN A COW TAKEN CARE OF.

Seventy-five dollars is voted under Public Highways estimates to recompense J. W. Chambers of Tillsonburg "for the death of a cow killed by a highway traffic officer while in the execution of his duty."

Additional allowances in accordance with the Mothers' Allowance Act figures in these estimates to the tune of \$144,000.

Under agriculture \$10,000 is asked for services, expenses and equipment in carrying on social research work with the Empire Marketing Board.

Miscellaneous votes are: Grant to Ontario Division of the Canadian Red Cross, \$23,495; grant to Ontario Safety League, \$15,000; grant to Last Post Fund, \$2,000, and \$25,000 for wolf bounties.

British and Dutch Rubber Combine

The Hague.—A central sale organization between British and Dutch rubber producers as counteraction to an American rubber pool is favored generally in Dutch rubber circles, the investigation by the "Telegraph" reveals. The plan being agitated calls for co-operation between Dutch producers and the London Rubber Growers Association as preliminary to the eventual establishment of such an organization.

Enduring Romance of Hudson Flyers



The whole world has been stirred with the news that Flyers Leuit. Lewis (left), and Sergeant Terry (right), and their one-eyed Eskimo guide had calmly walked into headquarters at Port Burwell after wandering for 13 days in a waste of ice and open water of the Arctic. The message received with word of the lost plane by the Ottawa operator, F. S. Woodron (center), was as follows: "Port Burwell, March 3. Department of Marine, Ottawa.—Aeroplane HG. Pilot Lewis, landed on ice-floe in Atlantic. After travelling easterly direction for one day, having estimated their location in Ungava, visibility cleared so that land was visible to westward. Retracing course, they reached land on Labrador coast, vicinity Kamaktovik, after seven days' travel, where Eskimo hunter picked them up four days later and brought them home. During travel over ice in Atlantic, air-raft used for time in making from floe to floe. Air-raft eventually lost by natives, and small ice-pans used as rafts over leads, using paddles of aircraft. Part of emergency rations lost and part, of necessity, discarded, personnel resorting to raw walrus food shot by native using emergency kit rifle. When abandoned aeroplane intact with exception of broken propeller and stiff legs on skis caused by running into heavily rafted ice. Their return most miraculous, but wonderful effort of personnel major factor. Native in air-raft of most valuable assistance. Estimated position of landing 60 miles off coast.—Lawrence." That tells the story.

Carol Predicts Throne is Near

Former Crown Prince Says He Will Soon Be King

Nice, France.—Former Crown Prince Carol, of Rumania, is being quoted by friends here as having declared that within two months he will be on the Rumanian throne, which he renounced when he eloped with Magda Lupescu.

Foreign Minister Titulesco, of Rumania, a member of the Bratianu cabinet, which has always maintained that every effort will be made to keep Carol from returning, is now summing himself at Mentone, a few miles away from Carol. Carol has been devoting himself to the night life of the Riviera.

In reply to rumors that he could see Titulesco, he said:

"Titulesco would have seen me on Thursday, but I did not wish to see him."

Planes to Rescue

4 U.S. Air Bombers Aid Mexico in Drive on Rebels

Mexico City.—The four Douglas bombing planes purchased in the United States by the Mexican government, originally intended to be used in the Yaqui Indian campaign but which were delayed because of the arms embargo at Nogales, Ariz., have officially entered Mexican army service against rebels in the States of Jalisco and Colima.

The planes were flown from Nogales to the center of military operations against the rebels in Guadalajara, State of Jalisco, where they were tuned up and equipped with weapons and are now regularly operating out of the base. The insurgents in part are said to be led by Catholic priests, who have refused to accept the authority of the federal government.

Heavy bombardments from planes have been frequently reported, and the rebels have almost dispersed except in a few cases where they have formed small bands and after surprise attacks retired to their bases in the mountains. It is to dislodge the mountain nests that the planes are being employed, it is announced, and so effective has been their work that

military officials in this city are predicting an end to the campaign within a short time.

One of the planes on being brought to its destination suffered a slight accident, but there were no fatalities and the damage to the machine will be repaired. The planes have a cruising time limit of about eight hours.

Farmers Told How To Rid Seed Wheat Of Smut Infection

Copper-Carbonate, Dusted on in Home-Made Apparatus, Is Called by Experts Best Protective Against Losses

Washington.—Plant pathologists and wheat marketing specialists are urging farmers to begin now an energetic seed-treatment campaign against smut, a fungous disease that causes a yearly loss of millions of dollars.

A new era in the control of bunt, the most serious of what smuts, began in 1917 with the discovery that copper-carbonate, a virulent dust, would kill seed-borne spores of the fungus without affecting germination of the seed. Simple, home-made dusting equipment usually consisting of a barrel in which the seed can be treated by rotating, is now generally used by individual farmers. It can be used any time in the year, since treated seed may be stored without injury.

Necessity for concerted seed treatment has increased, pathologists explain, because of the great spread of smut through the states east of the Rocky Mountains, thence generally over the entire country. Smut has been a problem for a number of years in the Pacific Northwest.

Since copper is mildly poisonous, those using the dust are warned to work in a well ventilated place and to wear a mask over the mouth and nose. Treated wheat should not be used for food or feeding purposes.

Discounts for smutty wheat range from a few cents to 25 cents a bushel at the markets. A study of published carlot sales records in Kansas City during the early marketing period of 1926 showed losses totalling \$122,700 in August.

Anglo-Egyptian Negotiations Nearing Crux

Treaty Provides Egyptian Aid to Great Britain in Event of War—Sirdar to Be Native

Cairo, Egypt.—The Anglo-Egyptian negotiations appear to be nearing the crux. Protracted party meetings are being held and there are frequent conferences of party leaders in which Premier Sarwat Pasha and Lord Lloyd, High Commissioner for Egypt and the Sudan are taking part.

The newspaper El Ahran, which recently published what it claimed were the principal points in the draft treaty between Great Britain and Egypt, printed a summary which seems to be the most accurate reflection of the conversations hitherto published in connection with the negotiations. The newspaper declares that the proposed treaty will be effective for 10 years, during which period questions not previously agreed upon will be submitted to the League of Nations.

Other clauses in the draft treaty modify the present British supervision of Egyptian internal affairs. El Ahran says:

Egypt Would Aid in War

In the event of a declaration of war against Great Britain, according to draft treaty, El Ahran says, Egypt would help Great Britain in Egyptian territory. The treaty also provided that Great Britain shall support Egyptian entry into the League of Nations immediately the treaty is signed.

It is understood that Sir Austen Chamberlain, British Foreign Secretary, has informed Premier Sarwat Pasha that if the present conversations between British and Egyptian representatives do not result in an agreement between the two countries Great Britain will have a free hand with regard to the four reserved points mentioned by El Ahran. These are: The aerodrome is to remain in British hands like other means of communications. Great Britain is to continue to supervise Egypt's external affairs and Egypt is to conclude foreign treaties only with British consent, and the sirdar or commander-in-chief is to be an Egyptian officer instead of British.

The search for the men was carried on under unpleasant conditions. The roads were bad, and the men wanted, as they were chased from place to place, took refuge in the woods. The three men sought were well acquainted with the district, and were therefore able to evade capture until early Sunday morning, when daylight revealed their hiding place. For 12 hours the chase was kept up without interruption, the three prisoners and the officers suffering severely from cold and exposure.

The prisoners are: Russell Hamilton of Guelph, who has been working near Milton and Georgetown; Gordon Gallagher, also of the Milton and Georgetown district, and Oscar Pi-bowe, Guelph.

Police Enjoy Busy Week End

Catch Summer Cottage Looters and Fox Farm Robbers

Port Colborne, March 4.—The gang responsible for the 24 burglaries of summer homes along the lake shore within the past week was believed broken up by local and provincial police over the week-end with the arrest of two men and the recovery of several thousand dollars' worth of household goods in farmhouses scattered throughout Wainfleet Township and in houses in the foreign section of Port Colborne.

The men under arrest are Bala Yalaska and Stanley Matoff. A warrant is out for a third man, Martin Berkner of Port Colborne, alleged ringleader of the gang, who escaped by jumping through a window when police raided his farmhouse in search of loot on Saturday. Police trailed him for five miles through the snow, but lost track of him at the Canadian National tracks. A district-wide search is in progress for him to-day.

Oakville, March 4.—There were dramatic moments Saturday night when a group of provincial police officers, headed by Chief Inspector John Miller, scoured a 50-mile area west of Toronto and rounded up three men wanted on the charge of robbing the fox farm of J. G. Nicholson at Kill-bred, north of Waterdown, on the night of Feb. 4.

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A Dog Team on the "Mush"



L. Seppard and his huskies participating before admiring crowds in the great dog derby at the Quebec Winter Carnival.

A Fine Day Cheers England

Every One Enjoys a Real Spring Day After Nasty Winter

London, March 4.—The weather, which has not yet tired of dealing curiously to the British populace after several months of vagaries, which included storms, heavy snows and floods, sprang a new surprise today with brilliant sunshine and warmth that seemed almost like a day in August.

Records for early spring were shattered throughout the Southern and Central England. The cloudless sky and midsummer temperature brought out thousands of motorists, and all pleasure resorts were crowded by excursionists. Boating, bathing, tennis and all outdoor amusements were generally followed.