

GERMAN LANGUAGE

NOT PROHIBITED

Closing Day of the Legislature
Proved Lively in
Debate.

EXTEND MORATORIUM

Truancy Procedure Under Board
of Education and Not
Police Commission.

After sitting for ten and a half hours the fourth session of the Fourteenth Legislature of Ontario finally adjourned at eleven o'clock last night. More excitement was crowded into the last day than had previously occurred during the whole session. The members seemed to have forgotten about the party truce and went after one another as though they were on the eve of an election. Some very important legislation was rushed through at the last moment and this procedure was strongly objected to by some of the members of the Opposition. At times the members indulged in personalities in language that was not exactly parliamentary, but when the final closing exercises took place the dove of peace once more had settled over the Speaker's chair, and after the Speaker had announced that the formal prorogation would take place on Tuesday afternoon at three o'clock, the members joined in singing "God Save The King," and "God Bless Our Splendid Men" and dispersed, glad that a long day had finally come to an end.

A Long Day.

The House assembled at eleven o'clock in the morning and did not call a halt till one-thirty. Starting at three in the afternoon, they did not take time to adjourn for a meal but kept passing legislation until the order paper was finally cleared up at eleven o'clock at night. From the drop of the hat in the morning until the last scene was over at night, the session was a live one. A wordy combat between Sam Carter, South Wellington, and Hon. I. B. Lucas, the Attorney-General, over what Mr. Lucas had said regarding women taking seats in the House, featured the morning session. In the afternoon, Hartley Dewart scored the Government for amendments to the Election Act, while Dr. Forbes Godfrey was the star attraction in the evening, when he handled the German language question without gloves.

Sir William Hearst was quite right when at the close he congratulated the House on the even tenor of its ways for the most of the session. He said that there had been no effort on the part of either party to obtain a political advantage. There had been less bitter invective than ever before and never had there been a keener interest shown in the matters before the House. He expressed his appreciation of the courtesy that had been shown by the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. William Proudfoot.

Language Bill Withdrawn.

"My purpose in moving this bill is that it may serve as a warning to the Hun in the Province of Ontario," declared Dr. Forbes Godfrey, West York, as he withdrew his bill which would practically wipe out the public use of the German language in the Province of Ontario.

Dr. Godfrey's action in withdrawing his bill came rather as a surprise, because it was believed that there would be a lively discussion over the bill. "This bill is not to insult the loyal subject who has German blood in his veins," he said. "It is a warning to the Huns in the Province to keep their hands off. If they can't be patriotic they will be at least careful and keep off the grass. Who has taken the lid off a hell?" he asked. "The answer is Bill Hohenzollern."

He said that a German physician in the States had given 2,000 men a virulent pneumonia germ because he was in the Kaiser's pay. In 75 to 100 years, the German mind had moved along a certain groove. "Verboten" had been the favorite word and it was a common thing for many children to commit suicide.

German Demonstrators.

He thought that there had been a great mistake in the immigration policy by putting the people into communities. "In the north riding of Waterloo at the town of Heidelberg during the Federal election old men and boys marched up the streets singing the National songs of Germany," he said. "This is a warning to that kind of people that we will not stand for such an exhibition in this Province."

"In the village of Wellesley in November, 1916, there had been no recruits."

Dr. Godfrey said that in 1914 there were only three members in County Council of Waterloo who were English-speaking and not of German descent. In 1915 there were two; 1916, none; 1917, two, and 1918, three. "But they all could speak English," interrupted C. H. Mills, North Waterloo.