

SCORES WAR-TIME PROFITEERS AND KINMEL CAMP OFFICIALS

Conservative Member for Parkdale Utters Strong Words in the Legislature — J. W. Widdifield, U.F.O. Member for North Ontario, Delivers His Maiden Speech—Other Speakers in Debate

A double-barreled denunciation of the wartime profiteers and the officials of Canadian Military Headquarters in England at Argyll House for their responsibility for the Kinmel Camp riots, featured yesterday's debate on the Budget in the Legislature. The critic was a Government member, himself a returned soldier, Lieut.-Col. W. H. Price, representative for Parkdale, Argyll House, he said, had not shown itself capable of meeting the situation, and it had lost sight of the fact that Canadian soldiers would not submit to the same conditions as English soldiers would. Conditions were bad in the English camps, he said, and he condemned the authorities in England for permitting statements being sent to Canada intimating that a handful of Bolsheviks in the Canadian ranks had been responsible for the trouble at Rhyll.

It was while he was discussing the returned soldiers, and emphasizing the need of providing amply for them, that Col. Price took a fling at the wartime profiteers. He condemned the men who had become wealthy during the war, and mentioned particularly Sir Joseph Flavelle. Had profiteering been eliminated at the outset there would have been sufficient money to meet the needs of the returned soldiers. Col. Price declared that it was his intention to move a resolution in the House asking the Dominion Government to find out just where the moneys made by those engaged in war contracts had gone.

U. F. O. Member Speaks.

Last night Mr. J. W. Widdifield, the newly-elected U.F.O. member for North Ontario, made his maiden address, in which he carefully explained his own position. He declared that he was an independent, but that he would support the Government on all measures which were for the welfare of the farmers and of the Province generally.

While the Budget debate continued all yesterday afternoon and evening, the indications are that it will last another day. There are about ten members who are still clamoring for a chance to be heard. This is private members' day in the House and the Budget debate will not be resumed until to-morrow. It is probable that it will be concluded before adjournment Thursday. The speakers yesterday, in addition to Colonel Price and Mr. Widdifield, were Dr. A. F. Rykert (North Wentworth), F. Wellington Hay (North Perth), Major J. C. Tolmie (Windsor), Thomas Hook (South-east Toronto), A. Ferguson (South Simcoe), Z. Mageau (Sturgeon Falls) and R. H. McElroy (Carleton).

Praises War Record.

Dr. A. F. Rykert (North Wentworth) confined himself largely to eulogizing the Government for its war record. He dwelt on the magnificent showing made by the Canadian Corps overseas, speaking highly of the glorious work done by the Orpington Hospital. Dr. Rykert also commended Hon. W. D. McPherson for the work done by the Soldiers' Aid Commission. Discussing the temperance question, Dr. Rykert declared that when the O. T. A. had been enacted there had been demands for some sort of restrictions to conserve the country's resources. While not in favor of

radical legislation to curb the sale of liquor, and not against a man having a drink of beer if he so desired, Dr. Rykert thought the whole matter should be placed before the people. It was for the electors to decide.

Mr. F. Wellington Hay (North Perth) added his word of approval to the work of the Orpington Hospital, of which it had been said there was no better in Great Britain. He was not a pessimist as to the future of the Province. True, there had been unrest when the war broke out, and it was only natural there should be some unrest now that the conflict was over, but he felt that within a short time extensive works would be undertaken by both Federal and Provincial Governments which would furnish employment for those out of work.

The extension of banking systems in the rural parts of the Province was favored by Mr. Hay in order that proper rural credits might be provided to the farmers. He also favored an effective audit being made of the books of the banks in order to protect the investors.

Riots No Surprise.

Lieut.-Col. W. H. Price (Parkdale) at the outset appealed for a suitable reception to the 4th C.M. R.'s when they return to the city to-day. Referring to the riots at Rhyll recently, the speaker said that they should occasion no surprise. Newspaper reports had given the impression to those at home that a handful of Russians in the Canadian forces had been preaching Bolshevism and that that started the trouble.

Argyll House, said Col. Price, had not shown itself capable of meeting the situation, and it had completely lost sight of the fact that Canadian soldiers would not submit to conditions that the English "Tommy" would. He referred to the fact that no official statement had been promptly issued by Argyll House dealing with the riots, although reports about Bolsheviks were permitted to be cabled to the newspapers in Canada. Whether the intention had been to let the opinion prevail that Bolsheviks had been to blame so as to shift the responsibility from Argyll House, he did not know. The speaker pleaded the cause of the returned soldier, urging that more adequate pensions be paid and that greater opportunities be offered veterans for employment. He believed that if the Provincial Government would place itself on record in connection with the latter the Federal authorities would act.

While discussing the returned soldiers, Col. Price spoke of the high cost of living which had prevailed in Canada for some time. "I had to pay 68 cents a pound for bacon when I came back," he said, "and I didn't know whether to blame the U. F. O. or Sir Joseph Flavelle, but I know it was between them. I think they had better get together and clear up where these 68 cents comes in. We are not all farmers nor capitalists," he declared.

Scores the Profiteers.

Continuing, Col. Price said that the returned men would certainly desire an explanation as to who had been making immense profits out of the millions Canada had spent on munitions. He quoted figures extensively to show that during the war production had increased more rapidly than wages, and that production increasing the percentage of material