

Fears Revolution.

Condemning what he characterized the "social secret service," Col. Currie said that Ontario had more informers to the square inch than any other country in the world, and also the worst police. Oppression was breeding revolution, he declared, that might be little worse than Russia, if unchecked. Russia's revolution, he said, had resulted from taking the rum ration away from the soldiery. The people of Ontario, he said, had made it plain that they didn't believe in the O.T.A.; the act was cursing the young people with intoxication.

"Ten years ago," said Col. Currie, "if a boy took a flask to a dance he would not be recognized afterward by the decent-thinking people of the community."

Conditions here, said Col. Currie, were getting more and more like the United States every day. And more liquor was being drunk twice over by twice as many people as before the act came into force. Ontario's record for drunks was greater than that of the Province of Quebec, where Government control—the only solution of the problem—was in force. It would take a law like Quebec's or Manitoba's, contended Col. Currie, to balance Ontario's Budget. Holding that the O.T.A. was an un-British act, he expressed surprise that so many clergymen should openly praise its iniquity.

"If a man speaks out against the O.T.A.," said the Colonel, "he is at once defined as a home-breaker. I have been accused of that. But just the same I advocate a sound temperance law, as does the Prime Minister. And when it comes to the issue—"

"What is the issue?" interrupted Sam Clarke (Liberal).

"The issue," said Col. Currie, "will be a sane temperance law. And when it comes it will get rid of all this oppression — this vilification — and discontent."

W. C. Weichel Last Speaker.

W. C. Weichel (Conservative, North Waterloo) was the last speaker on the debate. Mr. Weichel touched briefly on the advances made by the Province in the fields of industry, eulogized the work of Hon. Lincoln Goldie, Provincial Secretary, and suggested the erection in Waterloo County of a lasting memorial to the life and achievements of the late Sir Adam Beck. Mr. Weichel advocated the support of the asbestos industry in Ontario; urged that the Government give its consideration to the abolition of tax on amateur sports, as a means of further encouraging the boys and girls of the Province along the line of athletic endeavor, and, in speaking of good roads, stressed the immediate need of a regulation compelling all vehicles to carry lights. Referring to prohibition, Mr. Weichel said his answer to it was to be seen in a downtown window, where soda siphons were now on display, and where, last week, innumerable flasks, from a lady's size up, had appealed to the eye. Taking exception to the recent statements of Carl Homuth that the Government, in filling positions in North Waterloo, had given no consideration to returned soldiers, Mr. Weichel turned back to the time of the Drury Administration, and cited many instances where the Farmer-Labor Government, of which Mr. Homuth had been a member, had filled offices, and also had "passed up" the returned men in doing so.

Wants Hydro in East.

J. A. Sangster (Liberal, Glengarry) on continuing the debate referred directly to the question of Hydro-Electric power, expressing the opinion in this regard that the Eastern part of the Province, from which he hailed, had been neglected. It was entitled, he felt, to a fair service; especially in view of the recent statements of Hon. R. J. Cooke, Hydro Commissioner, that tremendous power was available in that section of Ontario. Mr. Sangster said he had heard that 60,000 horsepower supplied the Massena, N. Y., plant by the Cedar Rapids power line, was to be transferred to the St. John's district, and suggested that if such was the case, some effort should be made to transfer it to Eastern Ontario instead. Mr. Sangster said that only 9 per cent. of Hydro distribution was reaching the East, and this he characterized as a situation which in his judgment was "not right."

Regarding the coal situation, Mr. Sangster declared it was difficult to see why the C.N.R. should reduce its freight rates to haul coal into Ontario, particularly when the C.P.R. was "allowed to go scot free."

W. C. Chambers (Conservative, Wellington West) told the House it was very difficult to find anything about which to talk for the reason the Government had nothing for which to apologize.

"Looking around the Government," he said, "I see no one missing—"

"There's one missing," interjected W. E. N. Sinclair, Liberal Leader.

Confidence in Lyons.

"I hate very much to see the Leader of the Opposition let his suspicion run away with his better judgment," said Mr. Chambers, in referring, as Mr. Sinclair had, to the resignation of Hon. Mr. Lyons, late Minister of Lands and Forests. "I know when this matter is cleared up that Mr. Lyons will come out with flying colors."

Mr. Chambers went on to trace the mining development under the administration of Hon. Charles McCrea, the growth of the Hydro-Electric enterprise, and the work of the Drury Government toward which he showed considerable antipathy. The present Progressive group, he characterized as the "shifty" group. In direct contrast, he stated, was the policy of the Conservative party.

"We always follow our Leader like one man," he said, "through thick and thin."

"It gets pretty thick sometimes," was the caustic comment of W. J. Bragg (Liberal).

In closing, Mr. Chambers flayed the "about-turn" of the old Progressive party on the patronage question, and at the door of the same party laid the charge of "doing its best to kill Sir Adam Beck." At some length Mr. Chambers referred to the Backus "dealings," and added that now the Norman dam was being built by Backus, with the Dominion Government paying for it. O.T.A. matters the speaker practically ignored, except to declare that there was much "sniping" at the present time, and that more good would result if conflicting parties were to get together in a common-sense way.

Secs U.F.O.-Liberal Merger.

H. S. Colliver (Conservative, Prince Edward) followed with his maiden speech to the Legislature. Confining his remarks chiefly to general praise of Government policy under the different departmental heads, Mr. Colliver referred to the benefits derived from it by the riding he represented. In commending the 4.4 beer policy of Attorney-General Nickle, the speaker said it had worked great improvement in Prince Edward County. It was his opinion that 99 per cent. of all temperance

legislation had been advanced by the Conservative party. In respect of the alleged flirtation between Liberal and Progressive groups, Mr. Colliver said that, in his constituency, matters had advanced beyond the flirtation stage, and, while the two groups had not been united in political wedlock, there was every evidence of a mutual understanding between them.

Charles McKeown, Conservative member for Dufferin, lauded the work of Premier Ferguson, who, as Minister of Education, was "bringing education back to the farm." The member for Dufferin thought that the Prime Minister in this manner would, to a large extent, solve the problem of the away-from-the-farm movement.

Predicts Balanced Budget.

Proceeding, Mr. McKeown extolled the record of the Conservative Government to date in reducing the \$15,000,000 deficit inherited from the Drury Government, and expressed the opinion that, before the Government again appealed to the electorate, it would have a balanced Budget to show the voters.

Mr. McKeown twitted the Liberal party, under W. E. N. Sinclair, K.C., for what he declared to be its divided opinions on the "wet" and "dry" issue, and proceeded to recall the "howls" that had gone up from certain quarters when 4.4 beer was introduced.

"The only people that have been hurt by 4.4 beer," said Mr. McKeown, "are the hotelkeepers of this Province. They went to the trouble and expense in boarding up their bar-rooms, and so forth, and made nothing out of it, because it was a failure. It was the greatest disappointment that was ever put on the statute books in some respects. Why? Because it turned out that the Honorable the Premier and the Honorable Attorney-General absolutely told the truth about it. Can the honorable member for East Wellington (Mr. Raney) explain today his four-hour speech on that terrible calamity?"

Says "Drys" Are Insincere.

Just to show the sincerity, he said, "of those who advocate temperance for the purpose of pushing themselves into power, and for no other purpose," Mr. McKeown recalled that Earl Rowe, M.P., ex-member of the Legislature, one of the two men who had voted against 4.4 beer, was opposed in the Federal campaign by dry advocates. Rev. Ben Spence, who had come into the riding, Mr. McKeown said, had been publicly told by one of the Simcoe clergymen to go back to "wet" Toronto and make Toronto "dry" before preaching to "dry" Simcoe.

"So long as the O.T.A. is on the statute books," said Mr. McKeown, "this Government will stand behind it and see that it is properly en-

forced, let the chips fall where they may. As soon as in the opinion of the Government the Province will be better by a change—just as soon as in the opinion of this Government it is in the interests of the great electorate of the Province of Ontario that a change should come—when that will be I cannot say—the Government will be big enough, I believe, to take the bull by the horns, even if the bull sits over in the seat opposite."

Mr. McKeown proceeded to discuss the Federal political situation, and concluded that precedent had dictated that a Government which "hung on to power even though defeated" would be exterminated politically at the next election. With the Conservatives there would be no "compromise of principles in office." Liberals, Progressives and U.F.O. might sit in the Conservative band-wagon when that time came, but "they will have to play our tune."