

Let This Be Farmers' Session, Their Need Urgent, Says Sinclair; Nixon Asks Cabinet Salary Cut

Day of Less Spending Has Come, Admits Premier — Forecasts Enlarged Cancer Treatment Facilities — Slashes Hepburn and Philpott Speeches in Recent By-Election

TWITS THE GLOBE ON SCORING PRICE

From a comparatively recent sick-bed, Premier George S. Henry stepped into the Leaders' day debate in the Legislature yesterday and "mixed it" with Fergusonian abandon on behalf of his Government and the policies it espouses.

It was no "flu"-hit Prime Minister that struck out at Liberal candidature criticism of his Administration in the recent Grenville and West Hamilton by-elections—who condemned the Liberal campaigns of "vilification and abuse" as "the worst ever seen"—who took *The Globe* severely to task for its conduct of what he alleged to have been a three-year war on the Attorney-General's Department—who singled out Mitchell F. Hepburn, Provincial Liberal Leader, who "ran around doing a lot of talking, but who hadn't the courage to allow his name to go on the ballot paper"—but a two-fisted fighter who, in this his maiden Legislature speech as successor to Hon. G. Howard Ferguson, time and again roused his supporters to thunderous applause by the sheer weight of his argument and the sting he packed into it.

Warning of Retrenchment.

Mr. Henry touched off all the fireworks in yesterday's House debate, but above all their snap and sizzle and splutter he sounded, not to the legislators in particular, but to the Province at large, a solemn warning of a retrenchment by the Government in its expenditures. None, he informed his hearers, knew of the depressed conditions—particularly those affecting the farming classes—better than he. None was more anxious to co-operate and work to the improvement of those conditions than he. The Government, he felt, had to "go slow and live within its income." To *The Globe*, later, Mr. Henry amplified his intimation.

"Yes," said he, "we've got to retrench. In the face of the existing situation we cannot go on as we've been going."

From the Prime Minister the House had confirmation of *The Globe's* recent forecast that Ontario's cancer treatment—whenever it was adopted—would be given free to the sufferers of the disease, and the suggestion that a radium institute, long mooted, might be established as the means of providing this treatment. From the Prime Minister the House had an emphatic denial of stories that the Government was aiding bus lines to the detriment of railway transportation. And from the Premier the House had an expression of willingness to co-operate with the Liberal group under Mr. Sinclair in working out policies of benefit to the country at large, and a brief testimonial to the Sinclair leadership that even brought a blush to as praise-hardened a political warrior as the member from South Ontario.

NEW MAN ON BRIDGE



HON. GEORGE S. HENRY.

Who made his first speech as Premier in the Legislature yesterday, outlining Government policies, and, "just like Howard," eliciting much Tory applause.

Liquor Question Views.

In a bit of indirect crossfire, the Prime Minister manoeuvred from the Liberal benches a significant admission as to its attitude with regard to the liquor question that brought lusty desk-thumping from the Government benchers. One progressive step, at least, said the Premier, had been made by the Liberals in the past year, in spite of conventions and what not. They had at last agreed that Government control was the only satisfactory method of handling the vexatious "booze" question. He was pleased to find, he said, that the Liberals were now seeing eye to eye with the Government on the matter—"are one with us."

"Not yet," put in Charles A. Robertson, Liberal member for North Huron.

"But your party says so," fenced the Premier.

"Wait a while," came back Mr. Robertson.

Mr. Henry sharply objected to Hon. Mr. Nixon's criticism of the new dairy

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legislation, stating the standard adopted had been agreed upon by producers and distributors alike, and was bound to prove of advantage to the farmer. In intimating that certain changes would be made in the school grants—the object being to increase them where the tax rate was high, and to leave them unchanged or reduce them slightly where the rate was low—the Prime Minister said that a thorough trial would be made of the principle, and, if satisfactory, would be adopted generally.

Premier Is Applauded.

Premier Henry was accorded a rousing ovation when he rose to speak. Early in his address he referred to the departure of Lord Willingdon and the appointment of a successor from "the heart of Empire." The appointment of an Old Country man to the Governor-Generalship was an Empire tie that should be retained, he said. He was against the suggestion emanating from certain quarters that Canadians should be appointed to the position. His Majesty's representative should be chosen from the heart of the Empire.

Tribute was paid by Premier Henry to his predecessor, Hon. G. Howard Ferguson, who, he said, had resigned the Premiership to take up wider duties as the representative of all Canada in "old London." He said that, after the last Cabinet changes under the former Premier, he had marvelled at Mr. Ferguson's capacity as displayed in his choice of men to perform the special duties of the different departments.

"I assure my friend from Brant," said the Premier, referring to Mr. Nixon, "that he need not fear that the various departments under me will be neglected." An intimation that there may be appointments to the Cabinet to look after the Departments of Highways and Education, now under the Premier, was perhaps contained in the Premier's declaration that Mr. Nixon "may have a chance to try his luck in a by-elections again."

Salary Votes.

Referring to Mr. Nixon's statement that the increases of salaries voted last session to Cabinet Ministers had been made retroactive, Premier Henry said: "All salary changes made by this House date back to the beginning of the fiscal year. The provision for that was contained in the bill last session, and I am surprised that the member should bring the question up now, a year later."

Replying to Mr. Nixon's criticism of dairy legislation, Premier Henry declared: "No one will say that there have not been material improvements in the dairy industry. Since the legislation dealing with the sale of whole milk was put into effect there have been changes and negotiations seeking a condition which will do justice to the farmer and protect the consumer."

Mr. Nixon—Is it true that eight of ten tests of milk on wagons showed 3.2 butter content?

"No," replied the Premier, who continued to explain that much of the milk showed a higher butterfat content than required by law, the producer benefiting by bonuses in such cases.

Criticizes Hepburn.

The Premier then entered on a severe criticism of the Ontario Liberal Leader, Mitchell F. Hepburn, M.P. "We stand out as having been endorsed in ten out of eleven by-elections," said the Premier. "We have a unique situation in this Legislature. Since the last session the Liberal Party has held a convention and chosen a new Leader. He has had two opportunities to get into this House. But, although he did a lot of talking, he took good care not to allow his name on a ballot paper. We now have a Liberal House Leader, and, shall I say, 'Leader at large'—very