

Feb. 19

# Counsels Liberals to Recall Him; Asserts He Is Unworthy of Credence, Attacks His Speeches on Hydro

Data for Opposition Leader's Addresses Drawn From Chicago Anti-Public Ownership Journal, Prime Minister Tells House—Members, Challenged One by One to State Position, Ruffle Tory Chief by Caustic Replies—Hydro Charges Unmentioned as He Proceeds With General Defense of Administration—Slap-Stick Style of Debate Pleases Gallery Crowds—Stormy Repartee in Legislature Debate

## DOUBLE-HARNESS GIBE ROUSES SIMPSON; HENRY-PRICE "FUSS" CITED IN RETORT

Bluntly charging that what he termed the anti-Hydro attitude of Mitchell F. Hepburn, M.P., was based on the policy of a Chicago journal whose sole purpose of publication was to "lick" public ownership everywhere; that Mr. Hepburn, in giving newspaper interviews and in platform speeches, during the last year, has resorted for his doctrine to this journal, with its "lying and disreputable statements"; that his Milton speech, in particular, had in several instances been lifted holus-bolus from the pages of the magazine, Premier Henry, in the Legislature yesterday, essayed to counsel the Liberal Party that if it has any sense of responsibility it should recall Hepburn and "drag him from office."

"He is unworthy to be your Leader," said the Prime Minister. "He is unworthy of credence. He is unworthy of being associated with such great men as Blake and Mowat, and Hardy and Ross, and MacKay and Rowell, and others, including my honorable friend (W. E. N. Sinclair) now leading the party in the House."

Claiming that it was impossible to reconcile Mr. Hepburn's practice of standing up and expressing faith in Hydro with his concurrent use of "an organ directly built for the purpose of destroying public ownership," Mr. Henry threw down a challenge to the elected Liberal members.

### Liberals Questioned.

"My honorable friends," he said, "are all flirting around with him and sitting on the same platform with him while he uses this document. Are they behind Hydro or are they behind this sheet published in Chicago, with lying and disreputable statements in all its pages?"

Mr. Henry's attack on the youthful chieftain of the Ontario Liberal Party came at the end of a two-hour fighting speech, in which he scored the Chicago organ (published by the Utilities Publication Company of 35 East Wacker Drive) and its alleged insidious attempts to "get" Hydro in this Province. By the sheer vehemence and persistency of his remarks, the Premier at times turned the House into a veritable uproar, through which Opposition members, Liberal and Progressive alike, slugged toe to toe with him in badinage and bluster; and, at the end, he moved an amendment to the present Liberal amendment, calling, in effect, for the House to voice its faith and adherence to the principle of "power at cost," as acquired and administered for the people of the Province by the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario.

### No Election Soon.

The Prime Minister's address—the concluding half of the debate effort he began last Tuesday—constituted a general defense of Government administration, but, in spite of his appeal for co-operation from press and public to tide over "the trying times" and his intimated assurance that there would be no Provincial election at any early date, it raised