

March 15.

Hipel Hits Back When Accused Of Sharp Tactics

Made Charges, Grilled, But
Heard Relative of Henry
Concerned, He Says

D E N I E S UNFAIRNESS

Charges by Premier Henry that Norman Hipel (Liberal, South Waterloo) was giving the impression to the Province that he (Mr. Hipel) was being "shut off" in the debate in reply to the motion to adopt the Speech from the Throne were hurled back at Mr. Henry in the Ontario Legislature yesterday by the Waterloo Liberal, who proceeded to lecture the Premier on "unfairness" accorded him by the Government during the past two years.

Members Astonished.

Coming out of the quiet of adjournment time, Mr. Hipel's castigation made members sit back in astonishment as he related instances of treatment by the Government in and out of the House during two preceding sessions.

Mr. Hipel told of the alleged unfairness of Mr. Henry in refusing to accept his "adjournment-of-debate" motions in two succeeding years; and related how when he had levelled charges in the House two years ago against Acme Securities Limited and Vitamin Milling Company, Ltd., he had suffered the humiliation of being faced by three counsel in the Attorney-General's Department when he sought to give information, and was denied the privilege of having his own counsel present. During these hearings, Mr. Hipel said, one of the Government officials remarked as to officers in the interested companies: "He is a first cousin of the Prime Minister or a first cousin of the Prime Minister's wife"; and as to another: "This man is sitting in the House today"; and a third: "was an ex-member of this House."

The Premier himself opened the way for Mr. Hipel's rebuke. The South Waterloo member had about concluded his address and remarked that there were a few more things he had intended taking up, but there would be other opportunities, he said. As Mr. Hipel sat down, Colonel Price arose to adjourn the debate, but before the motion could be put Mr. Henry was on his feet.

"The member (Mr. Hipel) is trying to work off the same scheme he used last year," cut in Mr. Henry. "I don't want the imputation to go out to the Province that I shut off the debate—if you wish, the House will call it 6 o'clock and come back so you can finish."

Makes Reply.

The South Waterloo member arose quietly and in his unruffled fashion of speech said:

"I didn't want the inference to go

a pioneer who had flailed the grain as he now flailed the Opposition.

Mr. Nixon was the Leader of the Boys' Parliament, and Mr. Sinclair was a Mayor and a gentleman. He was sorry to hear of Mr. Hepburn's illness, he said, and hoped "he would soon be able to be back to take a punch at us all."

"But," the flippant member declared, "it is like working a jigsaw puzzle to find out who the Opposition Leader really is."

Complimenting Earl Hutchinson (Labor, Kenora) on his address, Mr. Reid stated that Mr. Hutchinson, the only Labor member of the House, had criticized every Minister of the Government but the Minister of Labor. That was significant.

In a serious vein, Mr. Reid declared that the question of alleged packing-house combines was a matter of Dominion jurisdiction, and that Prime Minister Bennett was quite capable of clearing it up.

Although it was previously announced intention to conclude the debate yesterday, lack of legislative business forced the Government to delay proceedings by having Colonel Price speak on Thursday in the final reply.

BILL WOULD ALTER RETIREMENT AGE OF CIVIL SERVANTS

Those Now Under 65 Would
Be Superannuated
When 70

SPONSORED BY HENRY

Ontario civil servants now under the age of 65 will definitely be retired when they reach 70, a proposed amendment to the Civil Service Act rules. Changes in the act are being sponsored by Premier Henry and he gave notice of motion in the House yesterday concerning them. As the law now stands, the Government may retain an employee after the 70-year limit is reached, if he can give exceptional services. Those over 65 will not be affected by the ruling.

Another clause would allow an employee to retire or allow the Government to retire the employee after he has served twenty-five years in the employment of the Government. Thirty years is the statutory age at present.

A third change in the act will provide for larger payments to the estate of the widow of a superannuated employee, where she dies shortly after her husband is pensioned.

Hon. William Finlayson gave notice of a bill which provides that a man must be a British subject before he can occupy a position on a statute labor board.

out that I had been shut off, but now that the Prime Minister has mentioned it, let us go back two years. At that time I got up and moved that the House adjourn and the Prime Minister said I must go on no matter what comes or goes. It was five minutes after 10—the Prime Minister said: 'No, no; we are going to continue to 11.' I finished at 10.35, and a Conservative adjourned the debate, and there was nothing said about it.

"Last year the same thing happened," Mr. Hipel continued. "I moved the adjournment five minutes after 12, but the Premier said I must go on. This I refused to do. More than a dozen Conservative members came to me before I got to the cloak-room and apologized, saying I was shabbily treated. Next morning the honorable Conservative Whip came to me and also apologized for what had occurred."

Mr. Hipel then went on and reviewed circumstances surrounding his charges two years ago.

Later, when discussing with a Conservative lawyer the fact that he had been denied the privilege of having his lawyer present, the Conservative "jumped to his feet in rage, and said: 'Do you mean to say that took place in Ontario—it might have happened in Russia.'"

At this point Colonel Price arose to say that when the matter was brought to his attention he referred it to the Securities Commission. Mr. Hipel replied that he had no quarrel with Colonel Price. A Government official told Mr. Hipel, the latter said: "The whole thing was a caboodle from start to finish, and should never be allowed."

Premier Henry did not reply to Mr. Hipel's criticism, and at once moved the adjournment of the House.