

# Milk Act Lauded As Outstanding Benefit to Farmer

## Hepburn Policies Are Praised by Houck in Legislature

The accomplishments of the eight-months-old Hepburn Government passed in review yesterday when the motion to adopt the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne was moved in the Ontario Legislature by W. L. Houck, Liberal, Niagara Falls. The presentation of the motion was prepared by an exhaustive review of Government activities from welfare to game and fisheries. Mr. Houck was greeted with thunderous applause and desk-thumping, and a similar ovation was tendered E. A. Lapière, Liberal, Sudbury, as he rose to second the motion of acceptance.

### Constructive Measure.

Interrupting his review only with a reminder of Hydro obligations to his home city, Mr. Houck struck most nearly home when he spoke of the Milk Board.

The Government, the Niagara Falls dairy expert said, had given support to the Conservative Milk Control Board—"because this appeared to be constructive, helpful legislation for the benefit of the needy farmers, and because milk is practically a public utility."

When the milk price had gone up, the member maintained, the farmer had received the benefit. Farmers were now getting almost 50 per cent. of the consumers' dollar. Making no secret of his own interest, Mr. Houck, who is a brother of the board member, asked that critics should recognize the farmers' point of view.

"I think most criticism of the Milk Control Board comes from people who do not understand the situation," he said. "I am a farmer, and I ask only that these critics try to see the farmers' point of view."

Of Hydro in Niagara Falls, he pointed out that public purchase of power plants had largely wiped out the taxation revenue of the city and township. Hydro cost Niagara Falls money. Sir Adam Beck had provided a grant in lieu of taxes, but notice had been served that it might be removed.

### "Back to Niagara."

"We think we are only fair," said Mr. Houck, "in asking that Hydro continue a substantial grant." As for other Hydro policy, the member called for the slogan, "Back to Niagara."

"We should adopt as the policy and the slogan of the Government and the Hydro Commission, 'Back to Old Niagara.' We have had enough of the policy of favoritism to large interests—our money which we have to pay for power, should stay here in Ontario and not lost to the power barons of Quebec. This Government has taken Hydro away from being the plaything and happy hunting ground for big interests and powerful corporations."

Highlights of Mr. Houck's review include the following comments:

"Expenses of the administration of justice have been reduced, while the efficiency of the system has been increased."

Labor—By voluntary agreements, made binding by law, "it is hoped to overcome many, if not all, of the gross abuses of underpayment and excessive hours."

"The decision of the Minister of Education to abolish fees for all departmental examinations will remove a financial burden which has assumed serious proportions in numberless cases throughout the Province."

"A comprehensive program (of tourist publicity) has been laid down for the 1935 campaign. Newspaper and magazine advertising will be used in the United States. . . . The birth of the Dionne quintuplets is expected to add still further to the Province's profits from the tourist industry."