

Henry Clashes With Marshall In Legislature

Farm Minister Comes Under Fire for Speech at Brampton

TORY LEADER IS ANGRY

VERBAL swords were crossed in deadly fashion in the Ontario Legislature yesterday by Hon. Duncan Marshall, Farm Minister, and Opposition Leader Hon. George S. Henry.

The duel arose over reported statements on the part of the Minister at Brampton on Friday to the effect that when the present Government has finished its investigations no member of the former Henry Cabinet would ever be chosen Leader of the Conservative Party in Ontario.

Leadership in Alberta.

"What chance would you have before a convention in Alberta?" asked Mr. Henry. "You would never be considered," he added, referring to the Minister's former tenure of office as a Cabinet Minister in that Province.

"Oh, wouldn't I?" returned Mr. Marshall. "As a matter of fact I have been offered the leadership several times."

"Why didn't you stay there?" asked Mr. Henry.

"Because I can live wherever I choose and it's none of your business where I live," returned the Minister heatedly. He added: "You may be able to boss your little crowd over there—but you can't boss —"

Premier Hepburn broke in with: "He can't boss any crowd."

There was a general outburst of desk-thumping and commotion. Speaker Hipel called for order.

The Leader of the Opposition called attention of the Speaker of the House to Rule 8, referring to applause from strangers in the galleries. The rule states that such strangers who applaud are to be ejected.

"I notice there are strangers here today, and I ask for your ruling," Mr. Henry said.

Speaker Hipel declared he personally had heard no applause from the galleries, but warned strangers present that under no circumstances must they applaud any of the remarks of members of the Legislature.

The Leader of the Opposition also took strong objection to another statement attributed to Mr. Marshall last Friday, referring to dismissals from the Civil Service and that over half of the civil servants had been maintained work like "sick setter pups."

Laughter followed, but Mr. Henry was not smiling when he declared: "It's a serious thing and not a laughing matter when the Minister refers to over half of the Civil Service as sick setter pups."

"We're laughing at you," put in Premier Hepburn.

The statement reported was shameful, Mr. Henry maintained. He continued his attack on the Brampton speech by referring to the statement of Hon. Mr. Marshall that, inefficient Civil Servants had been maintained by money "borrowed, begged or stolen from the Province."

"I admit I used the term 'borrow, beg or steal' generally," Mr. Marshall declared. "I did not mean to infer that you had stolen anything."

"That's what I wanted to know," put in Mr. Henry.

Continuing his reference to the address, Mr. Henry challenged Mr. Marshall to get up and make the statements in the House.

Marshall Responds.

Mr. Marshall responded with alacrity and reiterated his views regarding the Civil Service. He declared that, as long as servants were capable of performing their duties, they would not be fired from his department, whether Grits or Tories, but he would insist that they be efficient. His allusion to "sick setter pups" he explained as being merely a quotation, which he had completed in his Brampton address with the words: "and spring from their stools at night with the leap of a tiger."

Regarding his statement in reference to the Tory leadership, Mr. Marshall declared heatedly: "You wouldn't have lasted any time if your colleagues had had the proper intestinal fortitude—they would have thrown you out in any other Legislature had you been caught with the Abitibi bonds. But you had the power of dissolution, and dissolution was the one thing they were afraid of."

"When I get through telling about Abitibi bonds, you won't be so cocky," put in Mr. Henry, his face red with anger.

"And when I get through reading what Meighen said about you, you won't be so cocky, either," flashed back the Minister.

Mr. Henry was in fighting mood once more when he asked about his motion calling for the memorandum of agreement of Aug. 20, 1930, between the Abitibi Power and Paper Company, Limited; the Montreal Trust Company, and the Ontario Power Service Corporation, Limited.

The former Premier intimated that he did not propose to debate the return, and he was angry when Attorney-General Arthur Roebuck said the matter was not yet considered, and could not be answered today.

"What does that mean?" asked the Conservative Leader.

Mr. Roebuck made a reference to

the work of tabling more than a hundred answers to Opposition questions. The former Premier again insisted that he could not understand the failure to produce the document.

"I'm worried for the health of the Leader of the Opposition," Premier Hepburn interposed with a smile. "We don't want to see him pass out. He's quite an asset."

A minute later the former Premier was smiling when Mr. Hepburn brought out a news story of previous years in which Mr. Henry was quoted in derisive denunciation of 115 Opposition questions.