

Adjustment Urged Of Hydro Contracts

H. N. Carr Hopes That
Legislature Will Not
Break Them

Radical adjustment of Hydro contracts was called for by H. N. Carr, Liberal member for Northumberland, in closing the debate in the Legislature last night. The Campbellford member expressed the hope that the Premier would not break the contracts—but adjust them very radically.

"The people of Ontario must not be mulcted further," he said.

Mr. Carr backed his Hydro statements with a comparison of Hydro and Campbellford Commission power prices. Campbellford, he explained, charged one cent a kilowatt hour for power from its Trent River plant. On a rural Hydro line in Peterboro' County the charge was four cents a kilowatt hour.

Mr. Carr recalled that he had approached Hydro with an attempt to sell excess Campbellford Commission power. The late Hon. J. R. Cooke was quoted as declining to use public money to buy power which was not required.

"No one can argue with that policy," said Mr. Carr, but he asked why the difference between the policy toward Campbellford and toward the "so-called power barons of Quebec."

Prior to his Hydro comments the member for Northumberland crossed swords with the Opposition on the vexed question of pre-election public works.

"Just an act of a humanitarian Government—not an election stunt," he commented sarcastically as he related—but not without dispute—the incidents of pre-campaign undertakings.

Hands Off Hydro In Eastern Ontario, Orders Tory M.P.P.

Col. T. A. Kidd Attacks
"Failures" of Liberal
Government

To mark his release from the neutrality of the chair, Colonel T. A. Kidd, Speaker of the last Legislature, enumerated Hepburn Government shortcomings at Queen's Park yesterday.

Also defending the regime of Right Hon. R. B. Bennett, the Conservative member for Kingston flanked this defense with an attack on personnel changes in the Queen's Park Civil Service. "It's nothing but introducing to the Province the American spoils system," he said when he reviewed recent civil service history.

In Colonel Kidd's eyes the Hepburn Government has failed so far to give leadership in relief and unemployment; failed in "political Hydro tactics during the past three weeks"; failed to recognize the importance of Hydro to Eastern Ontario; and failed to keep election promises.

There was fire and counter-fire as Liberals denied that Premier Hepburn predicted without qualification a special session. Hydro speeches also produced subject matter for interruptions across the floor.

"So far as Hydro is concerned in Eastern Ontario, I say to the Government, Hands off Hydro in that section of the Province," said Colonel Kidd.

"Sink Differences," Legislature Is Told By Liberal M.P.P.

F. H. Avery Urges Joint
Action to Combat Job-
less Evils

A strong appeal for members of the Government and Opposition to "sink their political differences" and devise measures for the economic welfare of the people of the Province, was voiced by Fred H. Avery (Liberal, Lincoln), in the Legislature last night. Mr. Avery steered clear of the thread-worn question of Hydro, and confined his remarks chiefly to a review of world events leading up to the present economic depression, and urged joint action to combat the evils of unemployment.

"There are rumblings today," declared Mr. Avery, "and I ask how long are the people of the Province going to be patient? Unless we put our House in order perhaps they will force us to do it."

If, declared Mr. Avery, there could have been conscription of man-power during times of an emergency, there should be means of conscription of wealth.

"Take it all—all over a million," he said. "The burden should not fall on the persons of extreme means, but on the people who make their homes in comfortable and exclusive sections—the people who can afford to pay."

Roebuck Attacked By Tory Member

Attorney-General's Hydro
Speech Called Camou-
flage by Baird

Charging that the Attorney-General had acted beneath his dignity and that his department had done things to be ashamed of, W. A. Baird, veteran Conservative member for Toronto-High Park, unleashed a detailed Queen's Park attack last night on Hon. Arthur Roebuck.

Diversion Charged.

His Hydro speech was "in the nature of a camouflage," diverting attention, Mr. Baird charged, from loose administration of liquor laws and from the dismissal of public officers.

"Bolted down" in Mr. Baird's words, the Hydro Commission had been trying to meet the rapidly increasing demand and had met it by a purchase not as large as the rate of increase.

"Because the depression came along," said Mr. Baird, "the Attorney-General gets up and in a ten-hour speech tries to besmirch the officials of Hydro, and any one who had anything to do with these contracts."

More particularly the Toronto member objected to Mr. Roebuck's reference to Mayor Simpson.

"He inferred," Mr. Baird said, "or would have us infer, that he and the Mayor of Toronto were very good friends." Immediately afterward, the member charged, the Attorney-General tried to "besmirch" the name of the Mayor by linking his name with a \$500 radio broadcast.

Thrust at Marchers.

Nor would the Toronto member refrain from a thrust at the hunger-march—although an indirect one. He praised former Attorney-General Price as "never cynical, never peevish, courteous and a friend of every one in the Legislature."

"In him," he said, "we never had a man who mistook a deputation of Communists for a body of reputable citizens."

"Shame! Shame!" a Liberal bencher cried.

Mr. Baird also asked the Government benches to "forget petty politics."