

April 4

# Probe of Bond Sales Extended to Jan. 1

## Hepburn and Roebuck Score Col. Price for Hinting "Leak" on Gov- ernment Policy

**P**RESENT investigation of stock-market transactions in bonds of Gatineau, Beauharnois, Maclaren-Quebec, and Ottawa Valley power concerns by J. M. Godfrey, K.C., Chairman of the Ontario Securities Commission, will be extended back to Jan. 1 last.

### Colonel Price Scored.

Premier Mitchell F. Hepburn, in the Ontario Legislature yesterday, gave this assurance to members of the Opposition, but not before he and Attorney-General Arthur W. Roebuck vigorously scored Colonel W. H. Price (Conservative, Parkdale) for hinting that members of the Government had not guarded Hydro contract deliberation policy with the proper secrecy.

On Tuesday, Colonel Price asked the Premier to investigate the sale in power bonds for the last few days prior to the Government announcement of its proposal to cancel the contracts. This request was readily granted by the Premier. Yesterday, Colonel Price maintained the investigation should go back for several months, declaring that on Feb. 18 and also on Feb. 19, two days before the opening of the Legislature and a week before the Attorney-General attacked the Hydro contracts, two lots of 10,000 shares of Gatineau were sold short. The lots were described as 6's, '41, Series A and B, sellers 30 days at 97 and 96 1-2. In addition, Colonel Price pointed out that about three months ago \$6,000,000 worth of Maclaren-Quebec bonds "were dumped on the market."

"I resent in the strongest terms the insinuation that proper secrecy was not maintained," declared Mr. Roebuck. "This House should resent the suggestion that there was a leak from within the inner circle. As far as my address on Hydro was concerned, it was prepared in my own home in order that the greatest secrecy should be possible." Mr. Price had suggested

a review of "code" history during the months of last autumn. Press reports were read describing James Marsh, Deputy Minister of Labor, as "being cracked over the knuckles for talking too much"—about the legislation.

"Mr. Roebuck also raps his too talkative deputy," Mr. Nesbitt continued. "It may be a strange coincidence that Mr. Marsh was not put in his place until after Mr. C. L. Burton of the Robert Simpson Company put them both in their place."

"The Prime Minister," Mr. Nesbitt charged, "was never enthusiastic about codes. The present bill, as drafted and before this House, I am sure creates no worry in the Prime Minister's mind."

When Mr. Nesbitt charged that the projected legislation would have about the same effect "as a small boy sitting on a lawn behind a fountain of water with a clay pipe and some soap suds blowing bubbles" he stressed the insignificance of the penalties provided in this and the Minimum Wage Act.

"Does the speaker propose to bring in an amendment calling for higher penalties?" the Attorney-General asked.

"Yes," said Mr. Nesbitt. "If you are going to bring in legislation protecting labor why don't you make it legislation that will protect labor?"

Mr. Nesbitt also struck at the "proper and sufficient majority" clause, urging that it should be replaced with a definite percentage—"that the bill did nothing more or less than give an opportunity to agitators."

## Quebec Labor Law Praised by Roebuck

Negatively, Attorney-General Arthur Roebuck, in yesterday's Legislature raised the question of amendments lowering maximum hours of labor for Ontario women. Quebec, he pointed out, was making forward strides in labor legislation, and its maximum under the Factory Act was shorter than Ontario's. Perhaps the time had not arrived, Mr. Roebuck suggested, when Ontario might pass some amendments to the Factory Act lowering the 60-hour a week maximum for female labor.

### BURIAL ALLOWANCE.

A bill introduced in the Ontario Legislature yesterday by the Hon. Dr. J. A. Faulkner, Minister of Health, provides in future that the widow of a returned man whose death takes place outside a hospital shall be entitled to burial allowance if necessary. Under the present law only the widow of a soldier who dies in hospital is granted this allowance.

# Henry "Deserts" Party, But Only to "Sow Seed"

Former Premier Hon. George S. Henry almost slipped from good standing in the Conservative Party yesterday.

Mr. Henry's seat in the Queen's Park chamber is immediately adjacent to the extreme wing of the long semi-circle of Government benches. Fearless of Liberal "contamination," the ex-Premier has been chatting and joking with these deskmates, and yesterday he wandered further afield and sat temporarily in a simon-pure Liberal seat.

Windsor's J. H. ("Jim") Clark checked legislative proceedings. "Does the Attorney-General note that he has a new supporter?" he queried.

Hon. Arthur Roebuck stopped his speech, looked around the chamber and grinned when he spotted the former Premier.

"In the course of his long career—in all the corners he has turned—he has made no better move," said Mr. Roebuck.

"I'm just sowing the seed over here," was the explanation as the House laughed.