

April 5

## BARRICADE OF LEGISLATURE DENIED

### Fence Arouses Repartee

Attorney-General Arthur Roebuck wished God's blessing again on protesting unemployed when a Conservative Opposition poured an assault on a "barricade" Government in yesterday's Legislature.

"So long as they organize for lawful purposes," the Attorney-General told the police-protected House, "they are welcome to come back and to keep coming back; and so long as it is for lawful purposes—I say God bless them."

#### Only Protection.

"There are no barricades—only ordinary police protection. A part of the park was roped off with no intention of erecting barricades. If my friend would remember how his mounted police rode down people and suffocated them with fumes."

Leopold Macaulay had charged that at daybreak the Queen's Park coal chutes were being barred and the doors held against all types of visitors—the buildings patrolled "and barricaded like the fortress of an Eastern potentate."

"I realize that some of those who retire in the wee hours may see red in the afternoon," Mr. Roebuck countered.

"You see red all the time," snapped the ex-Minister of Highways.

#### Instructions to Police.

The Premier was sorry that Mr. Macaulay had difficulty in entering the Buildings—"but I understand the police had instructions to question all suspicious-looking characters."

The police, Premier Hepburn continued, had reported that this was a serious demonstration. The protesters had demanded the right to speak to the House, and the deliberations of the House must not be interrupted. The Government would receive their representatives.

Toronto suburban area unemployed, the Premier reminded the legislators, were getting 25 per cent. more relief than granted by the Campbell report—25 per cent. more than in St. Thomas. Hon. David Croll backed him up with the statement that the majority of Ontario's municipalities ranked below the Campbell report and without complaint. "The scale around Toronto is 25 per cent. above the Campbell report."

## Just a Question Of Pronunciation

The remark of Right Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, Federal Liberal Leader, that the Liberal Party was in the "Valley of Humiliation" following the Beauharnois inquiry was given a new turn in the Ontario Legislature last night.

"What did Mackenzie King say?" asked William Duckworth (Conservative, Toronto-Dovercourt) during the Budget debate. He answered his own question:

"He says we are in the Valley of Illumination."

## Price Scores Cancellations

### Claims Government's Action Is Unfair to Holders of Bonds

**H**YDRO contract cancellation had dealt a deadly blow to Ontario credit, Hon. W. H. Price charged in yesterday's Ontario Legislature.

#### A Fair Return.

"They brought in legislation," the former Attorney-General told the House, "which takes away from those who hold bonds in these corporations the opportunity for getting a fair return on their money."

This attack ended Colonel Price's presentation of the Opposition answer to Premier Hepburn's Budget. Juggled deficit charges replaced the juggled surplus charges of last year, as the Conservative financial critic declared that the Premier had evidently intended to show the largest deficit in Provincial history.

"The great mistake of the Government lies in their not taking advantage of cheap money," he maintained. They had floated short-term credits when long-term loans should have been placed. "You won't be able to borrow if you repudiate many more contracts. The cost of money has gone up several points."

The former Attorney-General presented a table showing rising yields and declining values for Ontario bonds in the past two months. London and New York had been amazed at the contract cancellation. "People are asking why their earnings should be swept away."

#### "Deadly Blow."

"Why should a bondholder," Colonel Price asked, "why should any one who has had the courage to buy a \$1,000 Beauharnois bond or a Maclaren-Quebec bond backed by Arthur Slaght's opinion—why should any people think that this issue was not backed by the reputable people of the Province—why should those people be discriminated against?"

"I think they dealt a deadly blow to the credit of our Province," he charged, going on to point out that Ontario—a new country and a borrowing country—required loans in the world market.

Colonel Price pared down a \$30,000,000 deficit to some \$5,000,000—a figure which he described as the true deficit for the last fiscal year. The Henry Government should not be penalized by the inclusion of a \$17,000,000 relief bill when it was obvious that the Province, like other Governments, was not treating this as an item of ordinary expenditure.

#### Built Up Deficit.

The former Attorney-General questioned increased interest payments, decreased interest receipts and Health, Education, and Agricultural Development Board bookkeeping, as he pared down the \$30,000,000.

"In order to build up our deficit," he maintained, "they charged that interest to expenditure. They had to do that in order to build it up—it wasn't bad enough for them."

Colonel Price left the inference that there had been no rush to include revenues in the books for 1933-34. Where were all the Liquor Board receipts? Why were succession duties receipts down?

For the future he could not accept the forecast of the estimated increase in revenues. Nor was there any economy in sight in the Budget estimate. Having abused the Henry Government for spending in their last year \$80,667,000, the Hepburn Government were stating that they were prepared to spend \$8,000,000 more than their predecessors.

#### "Are You Afraid?"

"Are you afraid of bringing your proposals down now?" Colonel Price taunted the Government, as he referred to the scheduled special session. "Of course, every one knows this Federal general election is on, and you're afraid to bring them down."

"I have pointed out," he summed up, "that the Henry Government deficit was around some \$5,000,000; I have warned the Government that I think they are too optimistic in their estimates; that no economy has been shown in the past five months."

## HONESTY OF POLITICIAN DEFENDED

### Same Status as Pastor?

**A** MEMBER of Parliament should have the same standing as a minister of the gospel."

This thesis was advanced yesterday by E. J. Anderson, Welland's Liberal representative in the Ontario Legislature. "Why," asked Mr. Anderson during the Budget debate, "should politics be looked on with alarm and suspicion when practiced with honesty and sincerity?"

This was Mr. Anderson's answer to Quebec criticisms that the Ontario Government had handled the Hydro contracts in a political and not a businesslike manner. The member spoke at length of Hydro's record in Welland County. "We believe in Welland," he said, "that the policy of Sir Adam Beck was absolute and complete public ownership."

With his Hydro remarks he coupled the statement that the farmers' great difficulty lay in the problem of markets, debts and taxes. Farmers could have no prosperity without stable markets, he said.