

amendment, which was lost on a division of the House, 37 to 15.

It was freely admitted after the adjournment that the Opposition intended Mr. Acres to inaugurate a lengthy series of speeches on the amendment.

Immediately after the amendment was killed the Conservative Whip, J. F. Hill, moved an amendment that the bill be given a five months' hoist, but he was beaten to the gun by Hon. Harry C. Nixon, who moved that the original question be put. Speaker Hipel ruled, after considerable protest from the Opposition, that the Provincial Secretary was on his feet first.

"Is my motion that the original question be put debatable?" asked the Provincial Secretary.

"It is not debatable," ruled Mr. Hipel, amid a storm of disapproval from Conservatives.

Another division was then demanded and the Provincial Secretary was victorious by a vote of 42 to 15. The same division was accepted by the Opposition, as the vote on the second reading of the bill.

The Leader of the Opposition, Hon. George S. Henry, was greatly disturbed because the Premier happened, at the moment of the unexpected move, to be catching up on a few hours' sleep and was not in the House.

"We want the Leader of the Government to show his face in this House," declared Mr. Henry, heatedly, his voice rising to a shout. A murmur of protest from Government benches followed.

"It is a most outrageous affront," the Opposition Leader added.

Government benchers merely chuckled quietly, the opinion being general that the Opposition forces had attempted to "put over a fast one" and had been clearly outgeneralled.

The rightful dawn of a new Legislative day—3 o'clock yesterday afternoon—was cancelled when at the regular opening hour, Col. W. H. Price, Conservative, Parkdale, moved adjournment of the debate. A division of the House followed and the motion was lost. So as far as the House was concerned, it was still Monday at 3 o'clock Tuesday afternoon. Mr. Price continued until 4 o'clock and was followed by Mr. Heighington.

The Opposition filibuster, or attempted blockade, actually started at 4.14 o'clock Monday afternoon, when Hon. George S. Henry rose and spoke until 10.40 p.m., with a two-hour break for dinner. At 1.25 yesterday morning W. A. Baird, Conservative, High Park, took the floor, and from then until 5.15 o'clock yesterday afternoon, Conservative members were continuously on their feet.

#### Premier Determined.

Several times during the twenty-six hour stretch Conservative members suggested adjournment of the debate, but Premier Hepburn would not be moved from his announced intention that second reading would be given the bill before any adjournment. The climax, initiated unwittingly by the Conservatives, came unexpectedly as Government benchers had been organized to maintain a quorum as long as the Opposition had ammunition or the physical strength to carry on.

The hour before three o'clock yesterday was an anxious one for Government front benchers, led at that time by the Hon. Paul Leduc, Minister of Mines, for several times lack of a quorum was imminent. This, however, was averted by a narrow margin.

At 2.30 yesterday afternoon Hon. George S. Henry returned to the House after a brief sleep. He sat in the House until after 7 a.m. Government and Opposition members alike had been organized—ordered out of the House for a few hours' rest, at the direction of the two chief Whips to take their places later, heavy-eyed, but apparently all determined to outlast their opponents.

Very few left the crowded galleries until long after midnight yesterday, and at four yesterday morning the gallery population doubled that of the House.

#### "No Quorum" Close.

From 5 to 8 of yesterday morning the Legislature faced its bleakest hours. The House flirted continually with a "no quorum" ruling; two members of the quorum were found asleep and another half dozen had propped up their legs on the nearest chairs and stretched out in the next thing to slumber.

An alarm clock was sounded off at frequent intervals from one of the back benches accompanying the drone of more Hydro documents from another Conservative speaker. At rare intervals two or three Liberal members broke into the debate trying to raise temporary commotion with the Conservative argument.

"Iron man" of the legislative membership was former Premier Henry, who did not leave the chamber until 7 a.m. His record was surpassed by Clerk of the House Major Alex. Lewis and Assistant Clerk Bulmer and Sergeant-at-Arms Rayfield, who were still in their places before and after breakfast.

Contracts—Gatineau, Beauharnois; steam power; 60-cycle power; power demand; engineers' opinions, and a gross of other Hydro items of the last fifteen years, were reviewed from the Opposition benches. Colonel T. A. Kidd, George Challies, Russell Nesbitt and T. A. Murphy laid down the attack by repetition from 3.30 to 8.20.

Liberals protested that the speeches were read, but Deputy Speaker William Newman ruled this had been done before. Over on the Government benches Hon. Duncan Marshall headed a quartet of Ministers waiting for daylight and breakfast.

"Call it 9 o'clock," Leopold Macaulay suggested to Deputy Speaker Harold Kirby when he got on his feet at 8.20. The Speaker agreed and the House recessed for breakfast—contrary, Conservatives whispered, to the Premier's wishes.

A new relay of members was entering the Parliament Buildings, shaved, rested, and ready for more.

#### Called Farce.

"A farce on debate," Mr. Macaulay called the twelve-hour argument, as he suggested its adjournment when he resumed after breakfast. A refreshed, but still almost empty House heard the ex-Minister state that the Opposition would not be finished by noon. The Prime Minister, he claimed, was adopting the wrong attitude toward debate.

"You believe in jamming things through with a high hand," he told the Premier.

"We're up against a cantankerous Tory Opposition," was the answer.

"The Prime Minister might say again if he will not permit an adjournment."

"There will be no adjournment," Premier Hepburn flashed back. "The debate goes on."

Laying down the charge that the outstanding object of the bill was to hang something on the previous ad-

ministration, Mr. Macaulay took up his sheaf of newspaper clippings and began a three-hour survey of Hydro. Clipping followed clipping.

"Read on, MacDuff," sang out a Liberal bencher when Mr. Macaulay paused to ask when the Prime Minister and the Attorney-General would return to the House.

The former Minister charged that T. Stewart Lyon had been of the unbiased opinion that the contracts did not threaten the Hydro fabric—until his hand was forced by the Government. The Chairman of the Commission, Mr. Macaulay charged, had been forced to subscribe to something—"which I know he cannot approve."

#### Single Supporter.

The review continued, with one or two Conservatives holding the benches in support of their speaker. Once the second row mustered a round of vigorous three-man desk-thumping, but for the most part the ex-Minister's periods were marked by the applause of a single supporter.

Mr. Macaulay found a "joker" in the whole situation in the question of Dominion disallowance. The Federal Government and the Lieutenant-Governor, he hoped, would not disallow the bill, and Hon. Harry C. Nixon averred that he would like nothing better than to go to the country on such an issue. But wasn't there a possibility, Mr. Macaulay asked, of a return of Right Hon. Mackenzie King to Ottawa power?

"For one year this bill will be on the tenterhooks, and log-rolling can go on in Ottawa. Taschereau had his representative here talking to you last week, and he will have his representative at Ottawa. Until we have a statement from Mr. Mackenzie King that the bill will not be disallowed under pressure from Mr. Taschereau—we don't know where we are."

Credit ramifications, legal angles, and the part of the O.M.E.A. in the picture were illustrated, with more clippings.

#### Credit Argument.

"We got that all four times last night," Morgan Baker broke in when the ex-Minister got to power supply. In his credit argument Mr. Macaulay held that cancellation would be more expensive than living up to the contract; in his legal argument he arraigned Mr. Roebuck's "ab initio plea," and argued that if the interprovincial bar against the contracts was extended Hydro's bonds payable in New York would be endangered.

"What I object to is the hypocrisy of it," Mr. Macaulay said, as he charged that the Attorney-General knew that the contracts were not void and illegal.

Arthur Slaght or the Government should provide an explanation of the lawyer's endorsement of the Maclaren-Quebec bond issue of last November. A committee—as he attacked Commission attitude toward the engineers—should learn "whether Hydro officials are acting as officials or are slaves of a Commission which is a political adjunct of Queen's Park."

Former Attorney-General W. H. Price took up the blockade cudgels at 1 p.m. He launched again into discussion of Arthur Slaght's endorsement of the Maclaren-Quebec bond issue of last November, while the Government made frantic efforts to preserve its quorum. With junior Ministers Hon. David Croll and Hon. Paul Leduc leading the House, heads were continually totalled up to ensure the quorum.

Attacking the accuracy of Mr. Roebuck's graph of Hydro figures which was presented to the House in February, the former Attorney-General charged that it could only be suspected that the chart was prepared to paint a gloomy picture.

## Premier Introduces \$60,000,000 Loan Bill

The annual Government borrowing bill to cover requirements estimated at \$57,000,000, and providing for the raising of this money on the credit of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, was introduced in the Ontario Legislature by Premier Mitchell F. Hepburn last night. By the terms of the bill, the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council is empowered to negotiate loans to meet expenses of various public purposes to an amount not exceeding \$60,000,000. Estimated requirements are as follows: Ordinary and capital requirements for the five months ending March 31, 1935, \$16,500,000; treasury bills payable in 1935, \$19,000,000; requirements for the capital account for twelve months, \$16,500,000; possible additional requirements, \$5,000,000.