

April 16

Didn't Mean Legislators

Therault Explains Remarks Which Threaten to Bring Him Before Bar of House

WHEN I told German that we hadn't been beaten cleanly, and that his gang had had too much money for us, I was discussing our two organizations, and had no thought in mind whatever of the Private Bills Committee," Frank Therault of the Alberta Hairdressing Parlors declared last night during an interview with *The Globe*.

Mr. Therault may be summoned before the Bar of the Ontario Legislature to answer for alleged statements, which, in the opinion of Aurelien Belanger (Liberal, Prescott), cast a serious reflection on the members of the Private Bills Committee and also its subcommittee on the Hairdressers' and Barbers' Bill.

At the suggestion of Premier Mitchell F. Hepburn, the Liberal and Conservative Whips will confer with a view to appointing a special committee to discuss the incident, and if necessary have Mr. Therault summoned.

On Thursday last J. C. M. German, K.C., representing the National Hairdressers' Association before the committees, is reported to have struck Mr. Therault during an argument in the corridor outside the committee-room. The bill was killed, and Mr. Therault stated in an interview published in *The Globe* on Friday last: "I told him (German) that we hadn't been beaten cleanly, and that his gang just had too much money for us."

"I was simply referring to the fact that the National Hairdressers' Association had been able to present a better case to the Private Bills Committee because they had possessed money enough to hire an organizer to go out and get signatures for their cause, and to afford other things which would enable them to present a better case, more complete than ours. I had not the slightest intention of casting any reflection upon the committee itself."

Rising in the House yesterday to a point of privilege, Mr. Belanger expressed strong resentment to the alleged remarks, stating they challenged the honor and integrity of members of a committee of the House.

"His statements," declared Mr. Belanger, "are similar to ones which have brought persons before the Bar of the House in the Mother of Parliaments at Westminster."

Members of both the subcommittee and Private Bills Committee, Mr. Belanger declared, had voted unanimously against the bill on the ground its sponsors had not put up an adequate case.

"I, too, deprecate loose talk of this kind," declared Premier Mitchell F. Hepburn. "It reflects on the honor of members of a House committee. If it is the desire of this House, I will ask the Whips to confer on the advisability of appointing a special committee, and, if necessary, have this man summoned before the Bar of this House."