

March 20

## TORY DEMANDS RESIGNATION OF CHARLES W. COX

Request Is Sequel to  
Slashing Attack on  
Timber Dealings

The resignation of Charles W. Cox, Liberal member for Port Arthur, was demanded in the Ontario Legislature last night by A. H. Acres, Conservative member for Carleton, in the course of an attack on timber dealings in the Lakehead area.

No specific charge was levelled by the two-fisted Carleton Tory, but he said, pointing his finger toward Mr. Cox's empty chair:

"I'd like to ask Mr. Cox, through you, Mr. Speaker, some questions:

"What does he know about the Indian Reserve at Longlac? What timber and ties were cut there? What did the Indians get out of it, and who did get the money?

"What does he know about the Indian Reserve at Gull Lake, what timber was cut, and who got the money that was paid out?

"And about Lac Seul Indian Reserve. Did the Indians get any money for the timber cut there, and did he himself get any of the money?

"Let me tell the member for Port Arthur," thundered Mr. Acres, "that people aren't all asleep at the switch. He'd better tender his resignation as member in this House for Port Arthur and let somebody take his place who can uphold the dignity of the House until such time as he answers these questions. It hurts to sit here in the House with men who can't give an account of their stewardship."

## REPAYMENT BILL PASSES

Provides Income Tax Re-  
imbursement

Blocked on two previous occasions by Conservatives, who demanded it contain definite provision for payment, a bill reimbursing municipalities for revenue lost through Provincial assumption of the income tax finally received second reading in the Ontario Legislature last night.

Following adjournment of the Budget debate, the House turned to this bill, which is supplementary to the income-tax bill. An opposition amendment providing for a two-weeks' hoist till the Government incorporated definite provision for payment, was defeated, 37-13, and the bill received second reading on the same division.

Opposition Leader George S. Henry and other Conservatives contended that the bill should contain definite provision for the proportion of the tax to be returned to municipalities. At present the act says that shall be decided by Order-in-Council.

Hamilton was the only municipality to protest the bill, said Welfare Minister Croll.

# Slum Clearance Plan Objections Denied by Croll

Landlords' Association Sees Fitness Clause in  
Toronto Bill as Arbitrary

**P**ROGRESS toward elimination of slums in Toronto must not be blocked, Welfare Minister Croll declared yesterday in the Ontario Legislature Private Bills Committee as he swept aside objection to Toronto's move in the direction of slum clearance.

### Owners Opposed.

The Minister's declaration came as representatives of the Property Owners and Landlords' Association protested a section of the Toronto bill dealing with dwellings and their fitness for human habitation was too arbitrary. They asked that owners be given the right to appeal from an inspector's decision on the fitness of property.

"The way we feel," said Mr. Croll, "we are going to give more power than the bill provides." He said he would make his motion in the House, and added: "There is a serious situation in Toronto."

The committee passed the section of the bill dealing with fitness of dwellings. It gave the city authority to pass by-laws fixing a standard of fitness for human habitation to which all dwellings must conform, and gave authority to the city to advance loans to an owner if he was unable to bring his building up to the standard.

The bill also gave the city power to demolish or repair buildings if the owner was unwilling to make the dwelling conform to the standard, and made provision for securing the city's investment.

J. H. McMillan, spokesman for the property owners, said owners were willing to do anything reasonable in the way of repair work if they were given a proper return. Fitness of a dwelling, he continued, would well be open to argument.

The committee refused Toronto authority to prescribe a building line on any street and, with authority of a two-thirds vote of Council, to forbid erection of a building beyond the fixed line.

Mr. Croll suggested the Municipal Affairs Department be given an opportunity to study the matter with respect to all municipalities facing the problem of street widening.