

All-Night Session Confronts House

Henry Objects, But Money Votes Must Pass by April 1

Tempers were flaring in the Legislature at 1.35 this (Tuesday) morning when Tories protested against the all-night sitting and told Premier Hepburn that the way in which he was treating them was "despicable."

The Premier answered by putting the House through another money vote as he carried out his promise to put through the Government's estimates before the deadline of April 1. He had already turned down former Premier Henry's offer to pass interim estimates and examine the votes at a later date.

The House was still voting money for 1936-37 at 3 a.m. and since 4.30 yesterday afternoon had passed votes for about \$25,163,000.

Obstruction Seen.

"We're going to stay here until daylight?" Mr. Henry asked as the Opposition wrath burst in protest at 1.35 a.m.

"Yes," said the Premier. The Opposition Leader asked the Premier if they understood each other and the Premier told him to go ahead with his obstruction.

"It isn't a matter of obstruction," Mr. Henry protested. "The people of the Province don't expect us to stay here all night."

"If it is the desire of the Honorable the Prime Minister of Ontario to make an absolute farce of passing the estimates, he is succeeding in doing it," Arthur Ellis broke in.

"I'm not going to sit here and take a lecture from you," the Premier retorted.

George Chalmers then termed the Premier's treatment of men "who are not well" as despicable. The Liberal benches were shouting for "Order! Order!"

No Interim Supply.

At 11 p.m. Mr. Henry offered to pass 25 per cent. of the estimates to take care of the April 1 deadline, so the remainder could be examined at another time. The Premier answered that it was not the Government's intention to vote interim supply, and that proceedings had dragged on too long. As the Hepburn driving force got into action, as it did in the memorable Hydro "filibuster" of last year, former Premier Henry said that he had scented trouble. "I thought it rather ominous as the evening wore on with the Provincial Secretary (Harry Nixon) and only one Minister in their places. The Ministers are all coming from their hiding places and we have a battery of Deputy Ministers (civil servants are at hand to help a Minister through his estimates) going to sleep, waiting their turn."

The offer to pass interim estimates

was the first co-operation the Opposition offered during the day. Very painstakingly they examined the votes for the Mines Department and the Agriculture Department because—as Mr. Henry put it—it was their only chance to get at the facts of the Administration.

After 11 o'clock the House, which had been in Committee of Supply since 4.30 o'clock, had only passed votes for about \$2,300,000—almost a record for slow progress.

To Expand Mine Work.

The Opposition showed they were going to scan the estimates "very carefully" from the moment the Government said "Go" on the money votes for the Department of Mines. Paul Leduc was kept on his feet by Tory inquisitors. He explained that his expenses were increased by the expansion of the great gold industry.

"We're not going to pass votes just because the Liberals say 'there's gold in them thar hills,'" said Wilfrid Heighington.

"Perhaps I can help the Minister," William Duckworth said. "In 1934 the Government sold ninety cars, and now they're wanting to spend \$8,000 for transportation (railway and aeroplane hire for inspectors going into the North). Those cars were sold for less than they should have been."

"That's not a fact," Hon. Harry Nixon broke in.

Mr. Leduc revealed that his department was planning to hire more geologists, expand the survey work; launch a program of forfeiture of lands bearing unpaid taxes; and inquire into the peat industry. Pressed by Opposition questioners he said his department had to keep on working to bring in new mineral activities which would spur employment.

ONTARIO HOUSE WORK GOES ON, SAYS MARSHALL

Ontario's interests in the centre of Empire were not being neglected merely because Ontario House in the Strand was closed, or because W. C. Noxon has been retired as Agent-General, Hon. Duncan Marshall assured the Legislature yesterday.

The Minister of Agriculture was replying, during the discussion of estimates, to criticism by former Premier Henry of the recall of Mr. Noxon.



W. C. Noxon.

The former Agent-General, Mr. Henry said, had done "a masterly stroke" for Ontario during his term in office, and much of such valuable work would now remain undone.

Furthermore, the former Premier charged, now that the Dominion Government was in charge of promoting the Province's interests in Britain, Ontario could expect little consideration, since, he said, Federal Governments were notoriously "Western-minded" and inclined to overlook the East.

All the last three High Commissioners to London, Mr. Marshall replied, were from Ontario, and there could be no complaint that they had discriminated against Ontario. As for Mr. Noxon, the Minister said: "As long as there was emigration work for him to do in the Old Land he did it well. But I am not sure that Canada would be wise in the future to use the emigration policies of fifty years ago. We should say to prospective immigrants—if they are the kind we want—'You must pay your way.' We would prefer immigrants who come to Ontario, not because we sell them the idea, but because they want to come. Forced immigration costs too much, if you don't get what you want."