

March 31

# Radical Speeches Made by Professor, Says Tory Leader

## Defends Dr. Cody's Public Utterances as Being in Defense of Authority

**P**ROFESSORS and free speech, a bitter issue in the days of the Queen's Park riots, was briefly but noisily revived in the Legislature early this (Tuesday) morning, and served to open the eyes of dozing back-benchers for five minutes.

### How About the Professors.

It came up when former Premier Henry, halting the passage of a Department of Education item regarding grants to the University of Toronto, wanted to know if Minister of Education L. J. Simpson kept an eye on the activities of the professors.

"For example," he said, "I'd like to know what you think of a man who goes out around the Province making radical speeches and styling himself as a professor of the University of Toronto."

Dr. Simpson asked for a specific complaint, complete with names and dates, if he was to answer the remark.

Then Hon. H. C. Nixon, Provincial Secretary, chipped in before Mr. Henry could proceed.

"Do you take any exception to Canon Cody going out and making Conservative speeches?" he asked Mr. Henry.

"I don't think you'll ever hear of Canon Cody making speeches designed to undermine established authority," retorted Mr. Henry.

"Did you hear Dr. Cody speak at the farewell ceremony to Lord Bessborough?" asked Mr. Nixon.

### Disgraceful, Says Heighington.

Then Wilfrid Heighington, Toronto Tory and staunch Imperialist, entered the fray.

"It's getting to be disgraceful the way these radical-minded professors talk," he charged. "They're not like us. They don't have to submit their opinions to a mandate of the people. They use their prestige as professors to sway public opinion. I have no objection to honest opinion, but I do object to efforts to undermine authority and to the advocating of anti-British policies. This is becoming a serious matter."

Prime Minister Hepburn told Mr. Heighington he was disappointed in him.

"Surely," he said, "my friend is not opposed to the honest expression of an honest opinion."

Finally Leopold Macaulay ended the discussion with a disavowal of the opinions of his fellow-Conservatives and possible fellow-competitor for the Tory leadership, Mr. Heighington, when he said:

"I can't for the life of me get excited at what some professor says. Anyhow, they're wrong nine times out of ten. They're entitled to express opinions. I object only when they plaster it all over the Province, when they are making these speeches, that they are professors of this and that. I'm a member of the Board of Governors of Victoria University, and I get plenty of criticism for my opinion on this matter. But in my mind, a professor is just the same as coal-heaver at the university."

## HOUSE STANDARD BILL APPROVED

The City of Toronto bill giving it power to set a standard for dwellings and make owners conform to it got second reading in the Legislature yesterday after Wilfrid Heighington called it "a crushing disappointment."

The Toronto Conservative, who has been a long-time advocate of constructive housing legislation, read the city officials a severe lecture on the inadequacies of the bill. A resolution in his name, he pointed out, had been passed in 1934 forwarding the principle of spending relief money for the abolition of slum areas.

"The complete failure of municipal authorities to seize the advantage provided by such action on the part of this Legislature makes one wonder if our slow march toward recovery lies in the almost incredible apathy of permanent officials toward any new idea unless it happens to emanate from their own intellects," he said.

"The Dominion Parliament passed housing legislation in 1935. What has the City of Toronto done about it? Even the present Liberal Administration at Ottawa appears to be in agreement with it—yet Toronto does nothing. One would think that Government grants for unemployment relief or for housing schemes would be seized by the municipalities as a great opportunity to do something constructive toward the recovery of normal conditions. Instead, they are content to distribute huge sums, to obtain in return nothing more than the bare sustenance of a number of individuals, whereas a little foresight and sagacity would provide them with most material and permanent benefits to the municipality."

Necessity of Government action to stimulate building was urged before the Ontario Legislature Labor Committee earlier in the day by the international labor organizations. The brief said about 60 per cent. of the building trades workers were out of work.

"The Government itself has considerable property that needs renovation and rehabilitation," the brief stated, "and necessary new construction is being held up, especially in our mental institutions, to such an extent that it has been stated that there are over 1,000 beds short in providing the necessary hospitalization."

Unfinished work in hospitals at Mimico, Woodstock, London, Brockville and the "planned work" at Smiths Falls would be of "tremendous relief if proceeded with," it was stated.