

## ALL HOSPITALS OVERCROWDED, M.L.A. CHARGES

**Mental Patients Forced to  
Sleep in Corridors, De-  
clares Russell Nesbitt**

Concentrating his attack on the Department of Health, Russell Nesbitt (Cons., Bracondale) charged in the Legislature yesterday that the Government had played politics with the mental hospital situation, until today every institution was crowded to the roof, and patients were forced to sleep in corridors.

Recent appointment of Dr. Samuel Hamilton of New York, to make a survey of the mental hospital situation in Ontario, was belittled by Mr. Nesbitt, who said that no doubt the report, when it was made, would be "pigeonholed" in the usual manner. He contrasted the money spent in the last full year of Conservative Administration with the amount expended on mental hospitals in the first complete year of the present Government.

### Charges Patronage.

The maintenance branch of the Health Department spent \$384,981 in 1933 on hospitals. In 1936 the amount spent for similar purposes was \$73,318, the member for Bracondale declared. He accused Premier Hepburn of "blowing hot and cold" on the mental hospital situation, and he charged that the "O'Connor patronage machine with headquarters in the King Edward Hotel, and secondary offices in the Health Department," was running affairs.

He was referring to Fred O'Connor, brother of Senator Frank O'Connor, who is purchasing agent in the health department. Mr. Nesbitt said that this machine was responsible for taking away Government business from the Institute for the Blind in connection with the purchase of brooms, and giving the business to the Gibson Broom Co. of Toronto, the owners of which were Louis Track and a Mrs. A. Weiner, the latter of Chicago. In 1934 purchases from the Blind organization totalled \$3,126 and in 1936 it had dropped to \$979, he said.

### Faulkner Replies.

Turning to the Civil Service, Mr. Nesbitt said that from April 18, 1935, to Feb. 26, 1936, 636 civil servants were forced from office. This statement was disputed by Hon. Harry Nixon, who said that when a woman civil servant left to get married she could not be said to have been forced from her job.

## ASKS PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION OF FOODSTUFF

**J. J. Glass Would Extend  
"Hydro Plan" to Bread,  
Milk, Fuel**

### MANY BENEFITS SEEN

Establishment of public ownership of the distribution of bread, milk and fuel was urged upon the Hepburn Government yesterday by one of its most ardent supporters, John J. Glass, M.L.A., St. Andrew.

If free competition in the business of distributing the necessaries of life was to be restricted—and in many cases it should be, contended Mr. Glass—the Province, through the municipalities, should adopt the role of distributor, as it had done in the hydro-electric field.

Such a form of ownership would not only benefit the consumers, he believed, but would provide the producer with a better price for his product.

"I urge this proposal upon the Government," declared Mr. Glass, speaking in the Legislature, "feeling as I do that we have now in Ontario a party in power that believes in reform, that is pledged to changes in our economic and social structures compatible with changed conditions and the trend of the times."

### Hits Milk Control.

Mr. Glass's proposals—and he confessed to the House that they might be construed as "radical"—developed out of criticism of the milk control legislation which, he charged, had enabled the milk industry "to become highly organized for the benefit of the producer and the distributor."

"The net result of the application of such legislation," he claimed, "has been a higher price charged to the consumer for the milk used by him, and even greater control of milk distribution by the highly organized powerful dairy corporations, the chief beneficiaries of the legislation." The tendency of trade at present, he said, was more and more toward monopoly—not only in the distribution of milk but in the distribution of all necessaries of life.

Mr. Glass was interrupted on various occasions by fellow Liberals, and Cabinet Ministers as he persisted in his criticism of present day labor situations. No other industry that he knew of, he said, had contributed so little to the public treasury in return for the privileges it held and the prosperity it enjoyed than the mining industry both past and present.