

March 13.

POWER PLANS BEING MAPPED, ROEBUCK HINTS

Projects for Development
Within Ontario Expected
to Be Announced

TO SUPPLANT QUEBEC

Gatineau, Maclaren Energy
Not to Be Needed After
10 Years, House Informed

Early announcement of projects for development of power within Ontario was hinted at by Attorney-General Arthur Roebuck in the Legislature yesterday. Indication that the Ontario Hydro Commission is now engaged in mapping out various projects was given when Mr. Roebuck spoke to second reading of the bill to validate the agreement with the Ottawa Valley Power Company.

The Attorney-General made his remark when engaged in discussion across the floor with Opposition Leader George Henry. He said that "at an early date we will have news for him of our own development." When asked later by the press to enlarge on this statement, Mr. Roebuck said he had nothing to say at present.

Contracts for Ten Years.

During the past two sessions the Attorney-General has enunciated a "back-to-Niagara" policy for Hydro, and it is believed the new projects to be started by the Commission will supply the power now being taken from Gatineau and Maclaren companies. Contracts of these two companies are for ten years, and the Attorney-General told the House that power from these sources would not be needed after this period. The Ottawa Valley contract, however, was in a different category, he said, owing to the fact that the Hydro Commission was joint owner of the Chats Falls development.

Mr. Roebuck dwelt on the advantages accruing to the Province by reason of the new contract. Most of the objectionable features of the old contract were eliminated in the new agreement, particularly the one which placed the power users of Ontario at the mercy of a taxing authority other than their own.

Compensation Provided For.

In the event of the power being requisitioned in Quebec, the company is obligated to compensate the Commission on account of insurance, interest, maintenance and proper amortization on the equipment of the Commission which may be rendered idle in whole or in part during the remainder of the period in which the agreement remains in force. Moreover, pointed out Mr. Roebuck, the company's right to divert power to Quebec was limited to 12,500 horsepower at any time during the next seven years.

Mr. Henry said the Government should have come to terms with the Ottawa Valley Company in the first place, without taking the action of repudiation. This company was the logical one to deal with because of the Hydro Commission's investment in Chats Falls.

"Largely a Bogy."

The Government, he said, now realized that there never had been any likelihood of the Ottawa Valley Power Company invoking the "return of power" provision in its contract. The whole thing, he said, was "largely a bogy of the Prime Minister and his Attorney-General." It was hard for the Prime Minister,

he said, to admit an error, because he appeared to be a great follower of the "consistency, thou art a jewel" belief.

It would have afforded him great pleasure, said Mr. Henry, to have seen Mr. Hepburn and his "good lady" at the Lieutenant-Governor's reception on Wednesday night. "But they weren't there," he said. "I would have enjoyed meeting them."

"You know it would have only made you miserable," said Mr. Hepburn.

"Not at all," smiled Mr. Henry. "It's a joy to be facing the Prime Minister any time."

"Your looks belie you sometimes," the Premier shot back.

Debtors Protected By Liberal's Bill

Household Furniture, Cooking Utensils, Wearing Apparel and Foods, Up to \$1,000, Exempt From Seizure Under Terms of Proposed Legislation

New protection for debtors is contained in amendments to the Executions Act and the Landlords and Tenants' Act, introduced in the Ontario Legislature yesterday by J. H. Clark (Liberal, Windsor-Sandwich).

The amendment to the Executions Act stipulates that the following chattels shall be exempt from seizure under any writ issued out of any court:

Household furniture, utensils and equipment which form a part of the permanent home of the debtor; necessary and ordinary wearing apparel; except in the case of farmers, such food as the debtor actually has in his possession for consumption for himself and family; such fuel as is in the home; live stock, fowl, books, tools, stock-in-trade, etc., to the extent of \$1,000.

In the case of a person engaged in tilling the soil, sufficient seed grain to seed all land under cultivation, not exceeding 160 acres, and such food and bedding for animals as shall be necessary for the winter months.

Agreements, verbal or oral, to abandon such exemptions would be null and void if the bill became law. In lieu of the chattels referred to the debtor may elect to receive from the proceeds of sale thereof up to \$1,000. Seizure may be made to satisfy any debts contracted for such articles as are otherwise exempt.

The Landlords and Tenants' Act would be amended so as to allow landlords to seize on account of arrears of rent up to the value of \$500.