

March 18

## Census Will Be Taken Of Picks and Shovels

### Hepburn Protests Against Conservatives' Consum- ing Curiosity, But Ac- cedes to Unusual Request

Reiterating his charge that many of the order paper questions prepared this session by the Conservative Opposition were designed solely to cost the Government considerable time and money, Premier Hepburn yesterday voiced emphatic protest against an interrogation from A. H. Acres (Cons., Carleton) which among other things demanded information as to the number of picks and shovels used over a certain period under former Northern Development Branch operations, and where these picks and shovels are stored.

It was obvious, said the Prime Minister, that to answer Mr. Acres's question in full would require the services of several men travelling all over the North country. And, after the information was compiled, it was very doubtful, said he, if the member would even take the trouble to read it.

"These questions are being asked just to satisfy their curiosity, and for no other purpose," Mr. Hepburn charged. "But I'm going to turn this particular question into an order for a return, although we probably won't have the information asked for for several months. I never saw anything more ridiculous. We, of the Government, might just as well know how many picks and shovels were used by the Macaulay pick and shovel brigade which was turned loose on the eve of the last Provincial election in an effort to buy the electors into again supporting the Henry Government — the most discredited Administration this Province has even seen."

## Irked by Interruptions, M.L.A. Curtails Speech

### Even After Acting Speaker Intercedes on His Behalf, William Baird Refuses to Continue

The Ontario Legislature witnessed the odd spectacle yesterday of an M.L.A. cutting off his speech before it was half delivered and refusing to continue, in protest against the House's seeming reluctance to listen to what he had to say.

The member was W. A. Baird (Cons., High Park). Repeated interruptions from the Government side of the House finally drew from him the plaint: "I may as well conclude my remarks."

"Make it louder and funnier," interjected Provincial Secretary Nixon, who was leading the House at the time.

Mr. Baird continued, but voices again began to drone about him, and for the third time he complained against the "discourtesy" being shown him.

"I must ask the members of the House to show the honorable member from High Park a little more courtesy," ruled P. N. Dewan (Oxford), acting Speaker. Mr. Baird, however, had had enough. He sat down and refused to budge.

The Hepburn Budget was characterized by him as "an alluring show-window display but just so many empty boxes."