

March 20

my secretary that unless I went over Mr. Odette's head, they would go to the Leader of the Opposition and give him information damaging and give him information damaging to myself. I told them to go where they damn well pleased. Osborne had told Dennis they would use influence with me to get the beer authority cancelled. I told them I would not interfere."

#### Called Blackmailers.

"They are nothing but blackmailers," declared the Prime Minister. "When Mr. Odette phoned me and advised me about the Osbornes coming to see him and he had listened to what they had to say, and was about to throw them out of his office, I told him to go right ahead; that he would be doing exactly what I would do in his place. 'I never at any time instructed Mr. Odette to issue a license to any person. The contents of the affidavits are false.'"

"Now, what charges are you making?" demanded Mr. Hepburn of Mr. Henry.

"None," replied Mr. Henry.

"Then you ought to be thoroughly ashamed of yourself," interjected Hon. H. C. Nixon.

#### Glass in Rebuttal.

In defending himself against the charges embodied in the affidavits, Mr. Glass expressed the opinion that as a matter of common courtesy the Opposition Leader should have first advised him of the information he had and given him a chance to say whether it was true or not.

"But," said he, "he preferred to read these charges against the Prime Minister and myself, without giving either of us a chance to explain. It certainly does not do him any credit to act as he has done."

As a solicitor, said Mr. Glass, he sold service. Dennis had come to him in his office with Osborne, said Mr. Glass, representing that every copper they owed, \$3,000, was tied up in the property. They had shown him a letter, said he, giving him the impression that if certain alterations were made the Liquor Board would grant a license. They had asked him to help them get things straightened out. Acting simply as a solicitor, he had consented.

"But this talk that I wanted some \$700 or other large sum from them is a downright falsehood from beginning to end," declared Mr. Glass.

#### Number of Complaints.

Mr. Glass said that on investigating he found that there had been a number of complaints from various quarters against the granting of a license, and he had spent considerable time in convincing the authorities no nuisance would develop, because Dennis was a thoroughly respectable man and capable of running the place as it should be run. Osborne had told him he had all his money tied up in it, but he learned he hadn't a cent involved.

"What they told me," he said, "was a downright falsehood from start to finish—"

"A pair of blackmailers," interjected Premier Hepburn.

"That's what they are," declared Mr. Glass. He admitted that he had charged certain proper legal fees for his services, but he had demanded no such payments as they had claimed.

Liquor Commissioner Odette had subsequently sent for them, said Mr. Glass, and the upshot of revelations there made, was that Mr. Odette told the Osbornes to get out of his office.

#### Ready for Inquiry.

"As far as I'm personally concerned," said Mr. Glass, "I am prepared to have this matter investigated by any committee that may be named. I think the whole thing was brought into the House to besmirch the honesty and character of an honorable member. The member for East York (Mr. Henry) should be thoroughly ashamed of himself."

Robert Allen (Lib., Riverdale), to whom Premier Hepburn said he had referred the Osbornes, told the House that all his participation in the matter amounted to was an endeavor to get for the Osbornes wages they claimed to be entitled

to. Outside of that, he knew nothing of what had gone on.

Mr. Henry claimed there was no longer any "control" in Ontario's liquor law administration, and that any one could buy all the liquor he wanted on a 25-cent individual permit. The Government, in reporting its \$7,000,000 surplus, had got a great deal of revenue from the Highways Department, but had paid little or no attention to roads maintenance during the three years they had been in office. Throughout the T. and N.O. country, he said, no work had been done at all, and complaints against the condition of the highways were very general.

The former Premier attacked the Government for placing loans on option, claiming that as far as he recalled he had never been guilty of such practice.

"You haven't," snapped the Prime Minister, and produced such an option dated in 1932. "There is no limit to this option," said he, "and yet, the Leader of the Opposition says he never did such a thing."

"I wasn't Treasurer, then," said Mr. Henry.

"But you were Prime Minister," Mr. Hepburn shot back.

"Do you as Prime Minister read every order before you sign it?" asked Mr. Henry.

"Every one of them," Mr. Hepburn returned. "And it would have been a good thing for this Province if you had done so. Signing orders-in-council without knowing what they contained, is colossal stupidity. Every order that comes before me, let me repeat, I read before I sign."

"You'd spend more time in your office than you do, if you signed them all," Mr. Henry shot back.

The early part of Mr. Henry's contribution to the Budget debate was pretty much of a wrangling nature, with he and Hon. Duncan Marshall, Minister of Agriculture, furnishing most of the cross-chamber argument. The two of them went to such lengths in debating the Minister's judgment in the purchase and showing of an O.A.C.'s prize bull, that the Prime Minister interrupted at one juncture with:

"I thought we were debating my Budget, and not Duncan Marshall's bull."

Mr. Henry and Mr. Hepburn had one heated exchange when the former referred to Arthur Slaght, K.C., as "a political trickster," who had "misled" the Judges sitting in the Royal Commission inquiry into the Ontario Power Service Corporation purchase.

"That's pretty cheap stuff," Attorney-General Roebuck called to Mr. Henry.

"And he'll pull the hide off you when he gets back here," added Mr. Hepburn. "He's at the Privy Council now, but when he returns he certainly will take your hide."

"I made the same statement two years ago," blandly declared Mr. Henry. "He's been a long time starting anything."

Mr. Hepburn recalled that, in the 1934 election, Mr. Slaght had considerable to do with the position in Opposition in which Mr. Henry finds himself today.

"He made a lot of political speeches," said Mr. Henry. "Most of them were untrue, whether he knew it or not."

## MANY PROBES ARE PROMISED

### Securities Commission Bill Advanced in Legislature After Hot Debate

#### HEPBURN IS ADAMANT

Hailed by Attorney-General Roebuck as "a long needed searchlight" that would expose many nefarious company operations, and labelled by Hon. Leopold Macaulay (Cons., South York), as "star chamber court methods" that were aimed at "getting" Right Hon. Arthur Meighen, after two previous actions against him had failed, the Hepburn Government's bill to provide the Securities Commission with much wider powers of retroactive investigation was given second reading in the Legislature last night.

Opposition Leader Henry pleaded with Premier Hepburn to defer the debate on the measure until Monday in order that thorough consideration might be given it when it was called. Still flushed from his argument over the Osborne affidavits incident, the Prime Minister refused to listen to Mr. Henry's requests, shouting across the floor: "We're going on tonight, and that settles it."

During the many interchanges between the Opposition and the Government, Mr. Roebuck announced that many investigations would be held under the new authority which the bill provided; Mr. Hepburn confirmed his intention to probe the operation of the Meighen companies and a number of pulpwood operations under former Tory administrations; and Mr. Roebuck, nettled by interrogations of Mr. Macaulay, expressed himself as ready to have the Diversified Investments Trust Company, of which he once was President, thoroughly inquired into by the Opposition, if and when opportunity presented itself to them.

"Nobody who investigates that company," he told the House, "can find anything to my discredit, and, on the other hand, they may find something to my credit. I for one am not afraid of anything that may be revealed, and if and when my friends get into office again they can investigate all they want to."

## Division on Budget Is Delayed To Monday as Nixon Indisposed

The Budget debate division will take place in the Ontario Legislature on Monday, as a result of an arrangement between Premier Hepburn and Opposition Leader Henry.

Mr. Henry concluded his contribution to the debate at 6.30 o'clock last night, but Provincial Secre-

tary Nixon, who is to wind up for the Government, asked and obtained an adjournment, although original plans had been for him to speak.

Mr. Nixon has been indisposed for a couple of days, and that is believed to be responsible for the adjournment of his address until Monday.