

HOUSE HURRIES TO END LABOR

Opposition Co-operates in
Traditional Last-Minute
Pre-Easter Sprint

SCHOOL TAX DEBATE

The Conservative Opposition will co-operate with the Hepburn Government in a determined effort to wind up the business of the 1937 Legislature session some time Thursday or early Friday morning.

Former Premier Henry expressed his willingness to expedite matters toward a pre-Easter conclusion when Prime Minister Hepburn promised to call second reading of the former's bill to repeal the 1936 schools tax legislation, first thing this afternoon.

The debate on this bill, and consideration of the Government's estimates for the forthcoming fiscal year, are practically the only unfinished business apt to furnish any serious snags. The House will sit morning, afternoon and night, with committees sitting concurrently.

Third reading was given yesterday to a Government measure establishing an iron ore bounty of two cents a unit. Wilfrid Heighington (Cons., St. David) suggested the bill be stood over until such time as the Privileges and Elections Committee has reported on the charges made by the Prime Minister against Dr. A. D. Roberts, former Liberal, Sault Ste Marie. The request fell on deaf ears, however.

Third reading was also given to Hon. David A. Croll's legislation to exempt from municipal taxation improvements made to homes under the Dominion housing scheme. Mr. Croll announced his department would notify assessors suggesting other improvements be exempted as well. Such action, contended Hon. Mr. Henry, constituted an invitation to the assessors "to violate their oath."

"No such letter will be sent out," Premier Hepburn announced after he had called Mr. Croll into brief consultation.

Gold Cure Proposed For Drunken Drivers

Offenders May Be Treated
at Ontario Hospital in
Whitby, States Attorney-
General Roebuck

Automobile owners who persist in drinking and driving even though convictions for drunken driving have been registered against them, should be committed to institutions where they may receive the "gold cure," in the opinion of Attorney-General Arthur Roebuck.

At the opening of the Legislature yesterday Mr. Roebuck demanded that George H. Challies (Cons., Dundas-Grenville) withdraw charges he is alleged to have made that Premier Hepburn had a drunken driver sent to a mental hospital because he had crashed into the Premier's car.

Four Convictions.

He termed the Conservative member's charge "totally unjust, untrue and unwarranted," and produced in the House a transcript of the evidence at the trial of 38-year-old Thomas Rutledge, a driver recently convicted of drunken driving and of hitting Premier Hepburn's car. From 1929 to 1935 this driver had been convicted four times of driving while drunk, the Attorney-General read from the record. After reviewing the man's record, Magistrate Keith had decided to send him to the Ontario Hospital at Whitby for six months, Mr. Roebuck declared. The Prime Minister, he pointed out, had not attended the trial.

Mr. Roebuck termed the Whitby Hospital a place where a man might receive the "gold cure," although he said it was not officially recognized as being such an institution.

Mr. Challies withdrew the charges he had made concerning the Premier.

M.L.A.'s Face Speech Curb

Forty-Minute Limit, Except
for Leaders, Proposed
to Legislature

Imposition of a forty-minute closure on all speeches except those of the Government and Opposition leaders, or members formally designated by either side to reply to the leaders, has been recommended to the Ontario Legislature by the special committee that is now preparing a new set of rules of procedure.

Shortening of the present prayers, which now include both Anglican and Presbyterian supplications, and are much longer than those read in the House of Commons, is also under discussion.