

March 4

# Macaulay Charges Misinterpretation

Takes Exception in Legislature to Editorial on Hydro Published in The Globe and Mail

Maintaining that he was not accustomed to making incorrect statements in the Legislature or anywhere else, Opposition Leader Leopold Macaulay, yesterday, took exception to an editorial published in The Globe and Mail that had been built, he charged, on a misinterpretation of what he had said with regard to certain aspects of the Hydro situation in his debate contribution of Tuesday.

In that debate he had condemned the deception practiced by Premier Hepburn during the last election, in advocating a "Back to Niagara" policy, when new contracts with Beauharnois and the other Quebec companies were close at hand. He had, he said, quoted a Globe and Mail editorial, also condemning the Premier's deception in that connection. And then, said he, to be fair with the newspaper, he had pointed out that it had not criticized the Prime Minister for "execution" of the new contracts, but had held them to be "fair and justified." The Globe and Mail's news columns, however, had reported him as declaring the newspaper had not criticized Mr. Hepburn for "cancellation of the original contracts."

"I know," said Mr. Macaulay, "that these comments of mine were asides, and not carried in the manuscript of my speech, and the press may have not caught them correctly in the cross fire between the Prime Minister and myself, but I feel I am entitled to make my position known here—that I am not in the habit of making incorrect statements. Any newspaper is entitled to whatever opinions it likes, but to base such opinions on misinterpreted statements is something entirely different."

# HAVE NO RIGHT, MEMBER TOLD BY MACAULAY

J. A. Smith Speech Prepared With Officials' Aid, Says Opposition Chief

CHARGE CALLED UNFAIR

Obtained Only Few Figures, Commissioner Says to House Speaker

Brief but sharp condemnation of Hydro employees who would attempt to cast reflection on honorable members of the Ontario Legislature was voiced yesterday by Opposition Leader Macaulay during a skirmish with J. A. Smith, M.L.A., Hydro Commissioner.

The incident arose when Mr. Smith, making his maiden speech in the House—a speech entirely devoted to review of the various Hydro systems' operations—contrasted the price per horsepower improvement during the four years of the Hepburn Administration with the four previous years of Conservative Government, and accused Mr. Macaulay of "obvious misrepresentation" of certain conditions in his debate address of Tuesday.

**Denies Misrepresentation.**

"There was no misrepresentation of anything on my part," clicked the Opposition Leader. "The honorable gentleman (Mr. Smith) has been reading from a well-prepared brief—prepared by some one down at Hydro—"

"That's unfair," objected Premier Hepburn.

"It isn't unfair," retorted Mr. Macaulay. "It's true."

"How do you know it's true?" the Premier threw back.

"I know it's true," said Mr. Macaulay.

"Let me say," said Mr. Smith, "that I have been a member of the Hydro Commission only a few months, and I did prepare this speech in collaboration with some of the engineers—"

**Queries Right to Reflect.**

"Just as I thought," clicked Mr. Macaulay. "What right have Hydro officials got to cast reflection on any member of the House?"

"I instigated this particular bit," said Mr. Smith.

"Oh, no, you didn't," cracked Mr. Macaulay.

"Jeffery, Jeffery," came cries from Conservative members behind him.

A little later, obviously nettled by the Opposition criticism, Mr. Smith addressed the Speaker, saying: "Conscientiously and sincerely, I say that, apart from consulting certain officials on figures that of necessity had to be included in my address, this speech is entirely of my own preparation."