

ANCIENT FEUD OF LEADERS FLARES AGAIN

"Haven't Much to Think
With," Hepburn Raps
at Henry

VERBAL DUEL HEATED

Long-standing friction between Premier Hepburn and Hon. George S. Henry, former Conservative Leader, flared again last night in the Legislature, in a heated duel arising out of debate on the closing of Government House issue.

It reached a climax when Premier Hepburn flatly told Mr. Henry, "You haven't much to think with," and the former Conservative Premier, after appealing to the Speaker for a ruling on what he termed a blatant disregard of Parliamentary language rules, returned, "We have at last got the Prime Minister down to the level where he belongs."

The outbreak was the first in a session which observers had stated had been free of personal clashes since the Hepburn regime first assumed office in 1934, and was witnessed by a scattered audience in the galleries, attracted by the first night sitting of the present session.

Office Belittled.

Mr. Henry, as the last speaker of the Conservative Opposition to debate on the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, took the Government, and the Government Leader in particular, to task for closing Government House and for "belittling" the office of the King's representative.

Finally, he charged, the closure of Government House was "only a cloud to cover up the Premier's

real purpose. He has never been an enthusiastic recognizer of the gubernatorial office. He is seeking to belittle the office to which I refer."

Mr. Henry then charged that the Premier, on the first occasion that Hon. A. E. Matthews, the present incumbent, was formally recognized, that is at the opening of the session, had tried to cut the number of the Lieutenant-Governor's honorary aides

"That is wholly untrue," the Premier snapped. "He had enough aides to officer an army."

Mr. Henry claimed he had information that Premier Hepburn was informed from Ottawa that the ceremony had to go on and had revised his earlier instructions.

"There was no intimation from Ottawa, you will have to withdraw that," said the Premier.

The Conservative speaker persisted in the truth of his claim. "Just the state of your filthy mind, that's all," declared the Premier.

"During the last campaign the Honorable the Prime Minister stated that Government House had cost \$120,000 annually. Where did he get his figures? No one knows," continued Mr. Henry.

He suggested they might have come from "Civil Servant No. 1," Chester Walters, Comptroller of Finance, "who supplies the figures for the Budget."

Things Different.

"I know whereof I speak," said Mr. Henry, as he claimed that heads of Government departments had told him "things were not as they were when you were in office."

Liberal Government benches thundered at this statement in applause. Mr. Henry continued: "The heads of department say they had some power over the moneys spent in their departments. Now it rests with Civil Servant No. 1."

The Premier declared Mr. Henry had made a definite charge that heads of departments sworn to secrecy in the affairs of their departments had given certain information. He demanded that Mr. Henry either withdraw or name the department heads.

"I am not making a charge," said the speaker. "I merely said that heads of departments say they are not free to carry on their work the way they used to because of the dictation of Civil Servant No. 1."

The Premier appealed to the Speaker and Mr. Henry again said he had not made a charge.

"You haven't much to think with," said the Premier. Mr. Henry in turn appealed to the Speaker, and the Hon. Mr. Hipel asserted he hadn't heard the Premier's remark. "Is that a fitting remark for a Prime Minister? I ask him to withdraw it," said Mr. Henry.

The Premier claimed his remark was not unparliamentary in that he was "expressing an opinion of the gentleman's intelligence, and I am not going to withdraw."

"We have at last got the Prime Minister on the level where he belongs," Mr. Henry retorted.

"I would point out to the Prime Minister that it is unfitting for him to repeat a private talk that he had had with the Lieutenant-Governor. It was entirely unbecoming for him to repeat a private conversation with a man whose mouth is closed."

"Cite the case," the Premier demanded.

Mr. Henry said a reference was made in the Premier's Throne Speech Address. "What was the statement?"

"Something about an incumbent in office having to entertain under duress," and, he added, after a dramatic pause, "I defy the Prime Minister to say who said it."

"Yes, I will say it," declared Mr. Hepburn. It was W. D. Ross and he said it cost more than \$30,000 a year to run it, too."

Before Mr. Henry concluded his argument about Government House the Premier rose and read a memorandum in which the present Lieutenant-Governor accepted all responsibility for the "aides curtailment," of which Mr. Henry had made mention, and thanked the Premier for his co-operation in connection with the sessional opening.

"I think that should clear up the matter," said Mr. Hepburn, sending the memorandum over to Mr. Henry, "and I would ask the ex-Leader of the Opposition to withdraw the charge he made."

"What charge?" said Mr. Henry.

"That I interfered with the Lieutenant-Governor's plans of the opening of the session."

"I simply made a statement," Mr. Henry replied.

"Mr. Speaker," said the Premier, "I will ask you to ask the honorable member to withdraw his charge."

"I made no charge," said Mr. Henry, "but I accept the Premier's statement."

"About time," some Liberal backbencher put in.

CENSURE ON POWER DEFEATED

House Votes Confidence
After Henry Hurls
More Charges

SIMPSON ANSWERS

Former Premier Avers
Quebec Move Made
in November

Supporting former Premier Henry's insistent demand for "the true story" behind the new Quebec power contracts, the Conservative Opposition, in the wind-up of the Throne Address debate in the Legislature last night, moved, but failed to carry, a straight want-of-confidence amendment deploring the failure of the Government to reveal, during the October election campaign, the Hydro policy it had promulgated and carried through immediately after the smoke of battle had cleared away.

The registered vote on which the House defeated this amendment was 56-22. The main motion, the adoption of which paved the way for Premier Hepburn's Budget presentation of this afternoon, was carried unanimously. Opposition Leader Macaulay agreeing, because of its innocuous content.

Cites Power Export Talk.

In summing up a full hour of sharp criticism of the Government's conduct of the power question, Mr. Henry charged that Mr. Hepburn's presence in Ottawa in November, 1937, to talk export of power with Prime Minister Mackenzie King did not jibe with recent declarations of Attorney-General Conant and Hydro Commissioners that nothing had ever been heard of a Beauharnois contract until December of that year.

"If Mr. Hepburn was in Ottawa, on some secret mission, to talk power export as was revealed afterward," he said, "what power did he propose to export? Beauharnois, of course. There isn't a doubt of it, and, what's more, he knows it."

Simpson Replies.

Against Mr. Henry, the Government pitted Hon. Dr. L. J. Simpson, Minister of Education, in reported public recognition of his defeat of Provincial Conservative Leader Earl Rowe in Centre Simcoe. Dr. Simpson met Mr. Henry's sizzling allegations about "broken promises," and "bosh and bluff," and "window-dressing," and "deliberate misrepresentation of fact," with the cool as-

sertions that it was the Conservative Party which had got the Province into the power mess in the first place; that the Liberals had made the best of a bad bargain; and had no apologies to offer for their policies or performance.

"I am quite content, and I know the Government is, too," said he, "to leave the verdict in the people's hands. I know what their answer will be: 'Carry on with your work. You are saving us money. You have done a splendid job.'"

This close of the first stage of the 1938 House deliberations extended a few minutes past midnight. Things went electric at times with the heat with which Mr. Henry and Mr. Hepburn matched tempers and tongues