

March 24

happened if the Conservative administration had not provided for Quebec power, and pointed out that in thirty-four of the forty-four months the Liberals had been in power the Commission had taken large blocks of power from Quebec.

He claimed there was a joker in the Ottawa Valley contract in that it obligated the commission to bear its own transformer costs, whereas, under the old contracts the company assumed that charge.

He urged the Premier strongly to entertain the St. Lawrence project, particularly at a time when both the Federal and Washington Governments were inclined favorably to the plan.

In answer to an earlier query by Hon. Harry Nixon, Mr. Challies said, "Certainly I am going to vote for the bill, but certainly there never has been in the history of the Province such misrepresentation on any matter since the Government moved in 1935 to repudiate the old contracts."

#### **Roebuck Gives Vote Stand.**

Mr. Roebuck, who earlier had made his stand clear on the principle of the bill, referred caustically to Mr. Houck's assertion that the bill was the result of long hours of negotiation.

"I am at a loss to know what the time was spent on," he said, "because from a study of the bill it is at once apparent that everything Beauharnois could desire is in the contract. Under these circumstances there is only one thing I can do, and that is to vote against this bill."

The debate was adjourned on the motion of Mr. Henry, who claimed the Province would like to know more definitely from the Prime Minister what had happened in the last few months to make him change his mind. He claimed also that Mr. McQuesten should be present dur-

ing the debate, on the grounds that he had already indicated he would make a statement of his position.

"I think it is only fair to Mr. McQuesten and to the House that he should be here and be given an opportunity of explaining his position before the bill is given second reading," he said.

Mr. Hepburn gave his assent and seconded Mr. Henry's adjournment motion.