

# Probe to Exhume O.P.S. Bonds Deal; Roebuck Left Off

**Hydro Questions Will Be  
Reopened to Include  
Henry's Holding, Aird  
Payments and Abitibi**

**BEFORE COMMITTEE**

**Intimation of Policy to  
Be Pursued in Power  
Quiz Given by Nixon  
During Warm Debate**

Notice was served on the Legislature yesterday by Provincial Secretary Nixon that the old and highly controversial questions of former Premier Henry's holding of Ontario Power Service bonds and of payments made to John Aird Jr. in Hydro dealings of the past will be reopened before the special House committee now authorized to investigate the ramifications of the recent Beauharnois and other Quebec agreements.

It was subsequently learned by The Globe and Mail that the Government plans, at the inquiry pending, not only to look into the Abitibi development purchase and the Madawaska properties acquisition, in which Mr. Aird figured, but to probe fully the various angles of Hydro's \$21,000,000 buy of the Dominion Power and Transmission Company plant and assets.

Mr. Hepburn would not discuss the situation last night other than to say: "They (the Opposition) wanted a Hydro inquiry; now we're going to give them a real one."

**Exchange Heated.**

The policy intimation from Mr. Nixon came during a heated exchange between the Government and the Opposition over the deliberate omission from the committee personnel of former Attorney-General and Hydro Commissioner Roebuck, on the ground that Mr. Roebuck's Hydro administration would likely be looked into, and consequently he could not, as a judge, pass on his evidence as a witness.

To suggest that the committee was a quasi-judicial body, declared former Premier Henry, was ridiculous. Who ever imagined, said he, that a committee of this kind could be of any real value. The press picked up the evidence and broadcast it to all corners of the Province, and the public formed its opinions long before the actual findings of the probe body were recorded.

To add Mr. Roebuck's name to the committee was no more out of place, he argued, than to allow Mr. Nixon to act as an investigator, because Mr. Nixon, as a member of the Hepburn Cabinet, had religiously supported Mr. Roebuck in all his power recommendations of the past.

"Now that my friend, the Provincial Secretary, is in the box—"

Mr. Henry was saying, when Mr. Nixon interrupted belligerently.

"My honorable friend (Mr. Henry) may be in a box before this inquiry is over," he shouted.

"Oh," smiled Mr. Henry, "I have heard that before."

"Your O.P.S. bonds will be up again," Mr. Nixon gibed.

"I have yet to hear of a better suggestion than that I made for the development of the Abitibi enterprise," Mr. Henry shot back.

"And Johnny Aird may have a different story to tell, too," Mr. Nixon cracked.

"Oh, my honorable friend," said Mr. Henry blandly, "just can't keep quiet when he gets in a tight place."