

ONTARIO WANTS PRIVY APPEAL

**Hepburn Government Will
Do Everything in Its Power
to Prevent Abolition of
Legal Step, Conant Says**

So strongly is the Ontario government opposed to abolition of appeals to the Privy Council, it may itself appeal to that body in an effort to prevent the Dominion Government passing such a bill which is now receiving consideration at Ottawa.

The bill, sponsored by Hon. C. H. Cahan, former secretary of state, has received first reading in the House of Commons, and has been endorsed in substance by Hon. Ernest Lapointe, Minister of Justice. The minister, however, recently announced that the measure would be referred to the Supreme Court of Canada for a ruling.

Yesterday Attorney-General Gordon Conant announced that, should the Supreme Court ratify the measure, the Ontario government might carry the matter to the Privy Council for a final ruling.

"The Province of Ontario will do anything within its power to maintain the right of appeal, particularly in constitutional matters," he said. "The province is not so much concerned with the right of appeal in private cases. We are, however, very much concerned that the right of appeal to the Privy Council on constitutional questions, and particularly in issues arising between the Dominion and the province or between the provinces, may be finally adjudicated by the Privy Council."

BEER PARLORS RUINING YOUTH, M.L.A. DECLARES

**Young People's Health Will
Be Gone by Age of 35,
Says T. P. Murray, 'Sage
of Barry's Bay**

BACKS HEPBURN ON C.I.O.

T. P. Murray, Liberal member for Renfrew South, took a sharp rap at the beverage rooms of Ontario during a Budget debate address last night to the Legislature. When the young people who are drinking now reach the age of thirty-five and "the bloom is off," then they will be after the government for their health, he said.

The "Sage of Barry's Bay," who said he drank more liquor when he was fourteen than in any year since, had a change of heart after being "dragged or pushed" into a beverage room in London not long ago. He saw "handsome young men and women" there who would be "no good in this world or the next" when they were thirty-five, he believed.

"I started to drink liquor when I was twelve years old," the still hale and hearty veteran said. "Working on the railroad when I was fourteen I drank more liquor than I've drank in any year since." He could still take liquor next to any man, he added, but he didn't believe in it.

The Conservative Government put the beer on the table and the Liberals pulled the cork and got all the blame for the beverage rooms, he said. "It is high time Ontario got wise and cut out some of the liquor."

Mr. Murray pledged his support to the Premier on the C.I.O. labor question. The Province should have a tribunal strong enough to settle a strike in any town in an honest manner so men would not have to break the law to get their rights, he said.

"If I were a dictator I think I would take half the men out of the depths of the gold mines and put them on top of the earth looking after the forests," said Mr. Murray, in connection with his reforestation ideas. He believed the forests would prove to be of more worth than the mines.

"Some will tell you," he added, "that the poisonous vapors of the East Hastings by-election blighted the trees in that area, but if they're wrong and it proves to be the disease I think it is, then we are going to have a fight on our hands."

Mr. Murray criticized county and municipal councils for passing on their problems to the Federal and Provincial Governments.

"If they are going to refuse to do anything for themselves then we can do without them," he said.

"I am sorry to say this here, but it is too bad that the different governments in Canada are not showing more co-operation."

PATRONAGE HITS VICIOUS PEAK, ELGIE CHARGES

**Woodbine Conservative
M.L.A. Claims Liberal
Membership Card Neces-
sary for Petty Laboring Job**

SPEECH ON BUDGET

Concentrating his attack on the Ontario Government's failure to cope with relief problems, Goldwyn Elgie (Con., Toronto-Woodbine) climaxed a long recital in the Legislature yesterday of Liberal shortcomings by charging that patronage under the present administration had "reached a peak of viciousness undreamed of in the past."

Continuing the debate on the budget address, Mr. Elgie expressed disappointment in the province's showing in the past year. He deplored the fact that the government had brought down a budget which "nobody in the House except the treasury benches—and only half of them—can understand."

"It should not be possible to bring down a budget that leaves room for doubt as to whether this province had a surplus or a deficit," he said. "What is most needed is a simplified form of budget that will set out revenues, expenditures and debt in such a manner that it gives a true picture."

Public Unconvinced.

The man on the street, Mr. Elgie said, was not convinced that the government had shown the surplus indicated, since the surplus had been achieved by spending money ear-marked for reduction of the highway debt.

The Toronto member also criticized the government for failing to act promptly on the offer of the Dominion Government to pay dollar for dollar on municipal public works undertaken as relief measures. The Premier, he charged, refused to accept the offer without giving any mature consideration to the question.

"Surely the welfare of our unemployed is something bigger than personal feuds," he said.

Mr. Elgie accused the administration of misleading the people of Ontario in the matter of automobile insurance rates. When the Liberal Government took away the right of passengers to sue automobile drivers for damages as the result of motor accidents, he said, the plea had been that insurance rates would be raised unless the step were taken. And yet, he added, in spite of this there had been a 20 per cent increase in rates on March 31, 1937, and a similar increase in February of 1938.

Quoting a statement made by Colonel F. Fraser Hunter in the Legislature, Monday, to the effect that political contacts were needed to get an appointment to the Ontario Provincial Police force, Mr. Elgie roundly attacked the patronage system.

"It is hard to believe that patronage in this province has ever reached the vicious level of today," he said. "I doubt if even the Prime Minister knows what is going on. Even when a man wants to get a job on road work at 35 cents an hour he has to produce his Liberal membership card."

"There weren't any Liberals around Hamilton getting jobs prior to 1934," interjected John Newlands (Lib., Hamilton Centre).

"Well, there are plenty of them now," was the reply.