

Mr. Roebuck, who had figured in several earlier caustic exchanges, attempted to make himself heard, but the Premier protested he was out of order—that while a division was being awaited no member could speak. Mr. Roebuck argued to the point where it appeared momentarily the Speaker might take a hand. From the Tory benches came cries of "Sit down." "You're out of order." But not until the Whips began their parade down the rose-carpeted aisle and the Deputy Clerk rose to begin his long drone of names for the records did the former Attorney-General and insurgent Cabinet colleague of C.I.O. times abandon his seeming attempt to restrain what he believed to be "hasty action" on the legislators' part.

**Criticizes Wheat Sale.**

William Duckworth (Cons., Toronto-Dovercourt), the first speaker of the afternoon, rose before the orders of the day to criticize the Federal Government for allowing the sale of a million bushels of wheat to Soviet Russia.

"I understand that four cargoes of wheat, a million bushels, were sold at Winnipeg to Soviet Russia," he said. "I would like to know if it is possible that the Federal Government would allow any group of men, or corporation, to sell wheat to Russia, an ally of Germany.

"This grain will go to Russia, and then be sold to Germany to feed the soldiers who will be fighting our Canadian troops in the front line next spring.

"The British Empire is bending every effort to keep food out of Germany, yet Canada is indirectly selling to the enemy. I want to find out about it."

"Why don't you go to Ottawa and find out?" interrupted J. A. Habel (Lib., Cochrane North).

"You mind your own business," replied Mr. Duckworth.

"Is Britain at war with Russia?" asked Mr. Habel.

Before Mr. Duckworth could answer Premier Hepburn was on his feet to express agreement with what the Conservative member had said.

**Beyond Jurisdiction.**

"I agree with what the member for Dovercourt has just said," stated Premier Hepburn, "but unfortunately it is outside the jurisdiction of this House. I deplore the fact that the Dominion Government has allowed the sale of wheat to Russia, but I deplore still more the fact that it recently sold two ice-breakers to the same power, which can possibly be used to keep Russian ports open so that battleships may be used against Canadian shipping."

Launching a vigorous attack on The Globe and Mail and the Toronto Star for editorials which Mr. Hepburn said questioned the right of Colonel Drew and himself to criticize the actions of the Dominion Government in the prosecution of the war, the Premier said: "The criticisms I made were as a member of the Organization of Resources Committee, whose duty it was to co-operate with the Federal Government and offer the resources of the Province of Ontario."

He said that the press attacks had been ill considered, and that "I was most annoyed with the editorial that appeared this morning in The Globe and Mail that treated in a facetious way my remarks with regard to the fact that Lieutenant Campbell suffered an attack of the flu because he was not able to obtain a greatcoat when he joined the army.

"It may be funny for The Globe and Mail," he continued, "but it is not so funny for the man who gave up the position of Minister of Public Works of this Province so that he might serve his country, and then found that he could not get properly clothed."

**Had Only Raincoat, Claim.**

Mr. Hepburn said that Lieutenant Campbell had come down to his farm near St. Thomas at Christmas time with only a raincoat over his uniform, although the temperature was close to zero.

"He was also on active service with this raincoat as his only overcoat. And yet the Prime Minister of Canada said that we were ready for war, and that he had been quietly preparing for two years. Preparing for what?" demanded Mr. Hepburn.

"There were many men on active service who have active tuberculosis," he continued, "because they were not supplied with sufficient clothing. That may be funny to The Globe and Mail, but it is not funny to me.

"We in the Province of Ontario are taking care of these men," said the Premier, "although the Dominion Government has thrown them out of the army in the most callous way. True, these men may have had the tuberculosis germ, but their illness was aggravated by the conditions of their war training."

Mr. Hepburn said that there had been a lot of talk about the bathroom that had been installed in his office at the Parliament Buildings. "The Globe and Mail even mentioned the Premier's bathroom in their editorial. Well, if anyone can find a bathtub in that bathroom, I'll eat it."

**Says Facilities Lacking.**

Referring to the mental hospital at St. Thomas, Mr. Hepburn said the Provincial Government had offered the Dominion Government the full use of the hospital for training purposes. "Two months later there were allegedly thirty men inside the building, and another thirty outside guarding them," he added.

He said there were now about 500 men in training at the hospital, but that if many more were added there would not be enough facilities as the Federal Government had failed to equip the hospital properly for training purposes.

"At Christmas there were about 500 men in training, there were very few uniforms, and it was a pitiable sight to see them marching," said the Premier. "There was a near-riot in the building due to the deplorable conditions under which the men had to work.

"Yet the chief propaganda sheet of the King Government," he said, holding up a copy of the Toronto Star, "says that the training of these men is going ahead full blast. However, the Dominion Government is not prosecuting the war in a manner to suit the Canadian people, and in spite of the propaganda of the Star and the radio addresses of Mr. King and members of his Cabinet, the Canadian people will not accept these statements."

**Drew Upholds Right.**

Following Premier Hepburn, Opposition Leader George Drew rose and, referring to an editorial in the Toronto Star, which he said questioned the right of himself and Premier Hepburn to criticize the Federal Government's war effort, said that "it is my duty to correct an utterly mistaken impression made by a newspaper which claims to have some measure of public responsibility.

"I made it clear, and so did Mr. Hepburn, that the remarks we made with regard to the Dominion Government's prosecution of the war were based on the fact that we are members of the Organization of Resources Committee, whose duty it is to make the resources of Ontario available to the war effort of the country," he said.

"Those resources include over a third of the population of the country, and half of the total industry, which will contribute so much to the final victory of the Empire forces. I carefully premised my remarks about the Ottawa Government with the statement that they were to be made as a member of this committee."

Colonel Drew stated that the Legislature was very much concerned with the Dominion because, "no matter what we want to do, we are geared to the speed of the Federal Government. It is therefore of direct concern to this House what the Federal Government does."

**Called Every One's War.**

Colonel Drew said there was no need to define the technical grounds on which he and Premier Hepburn had the right to criticize the Federal Government in the Legislature.

"This is the war of every man, woman and child in Canada, and we have the right to voice our opinions on how it is being carried on," he declared.

Colonel Drew said that the Star had supported Ontario municipalities in their right to vote on the legislation proposed by the Government lengthening the term of municipal office.

"I agreed with the Star in that policy," he said, "for although the municipalities were not concerned with presenting the legislation they were concerned with its results. It is therefore strange to find this same paper arguing that we have no concern with the works of the Federal Government."

Colonel Drew then picked up a copy of The Globe and Mail and referred to an editorial which he said claimed that it took no courage to speak out about the failure of the Dominion Government to equip Canadian soldiers adequately.

"If it took no courage," declared Colonel Drew, "why didn't The Globe and Mail tell us about it? I was silent until this House opened in the hope that there might be members of Mr. King's Cabinet who would force him to act."

Colonel Drew said he had made only one public speech on Canada's war effort since the outbreak of war, until the Legislature opened, except during the special session of the House last autumn. "I did this on purpose to give the Federal Government every chance to do their job," he added.

Colonel Drew said The Globe and Mail had tried to give the impression that he was critical of being misreported. "Only twice have I ever been misreported," he said. "The first time was a deliberate fabrication on the part of the Toronto Star, and the second time was also a fabrication, but happily I was dealing with a paper which had a high appreciation of its public responsibility and it published a full retraction."

**Thinks Ralston in Dark.**

Colonel Drew again referred to the editorial. "The word bunk is not mine," he said. "It was the Premier's word, but I must say that it effectively describes the radio speeches."

He read from the editorial . . . "We have the statement of Hon. J. L. Ralston, who left a profitable law practice to serve his country. Speaking on the radio on Nov. 24, he said: 'I believe that in the time available nothing has been or is being left undone which could reasonably be done by your Government and by the public service to give full effect to the contribution Canada is making to this war.'"

"I have no hesitation in saying," said Colonel Drew, "that Colonel Ralston either did not know the facts or he was giving a more favored view of the situation if he did know them.

"I will take the charitable view, that probably he was wholly unaware of the disgraceful condition of our armed forces at the present time, or, rather, say our unarmed forces.

"I may say," he added, "that Colonel Ralston was one of the men I had hoped would bring pressure upon Mr. King to do something which was not being done."

Colonel Drew said this hope, at the time, was strengthened by what he had observed when he, the Lieutenant-Governor and Premier