

Legislature Hears Statesman



The Legislature yesterday for three-quarters of an hour listened to an address by Lord Marley, Deputy Speaker and Chief Opposition Whip in the House of Lords. He is shown chatting with Premier Hepburn in his office.—Staff Photo.

WILL RETALIATE IF NAZIS BOMB, MARLEY SAYS

**Industrial Areas Will
Be Wrecked if Germans
Start, He Declares**

WON'T HESITATE

The first German air attack on the civilian populations of Great Britain or France will be the signal for immediate bombing raids on the great industrial centres of the Rhineland, with their complete destruction "inevitable," Lord Marley, Deputy Speaker and Chief Opposition Whip in the House of Lords, told the Ontario Legislature yesterday.

The Allies, he said, had confined their attacks to purely military objectives, and had refrained from bombing strategic industrial centres only because women and children have not yet been evacuated from them. An attack would lead to loss of civilian life in Germany, which would be used as an excuse to justify similar attacks by the enemy.

Destruction Inevitable.

"But if the Nazi Government attacks our women and children," Lord Marley warned, we will not hesitate to attack—not their women and children—but the great industrial centres, which in some instances are but four or five minutes' flight from our advance air stations. The location and general situation of these centres is such as to make their destruction inevitable if and when we find it necessary to undertake it."

The British Labor peer told members of the Legislature that criticism of the Government was being pursued with vigor despite the fact that a war was in progress, and maintained that such criticism was "a part of the whole democratic idea."

In an interview last evening, Lord Marley pointed out that his references on the political issue had been confined entirely to British affairs and were not to be construed as applicable in any way to conditions in Canada.

"My speech dealt entirely with the British domestic situation," he said. "I am totally uninformed as to the trend of events in Canada, and cannot be held responsible for any interpretation of my remarks with respect to the situation here."

In his address before the Legislature, the distinguished British statesman declared that, while fullest co-operation was being accorded the British Government in many of its policies, the Opposition would not shrink from "criticism of any one at any time" when the circumstances warranted it.

"We haven't joined with the Government," he said, "because we believe in adequate criticism. We are mainly concerned with criticism of the direction of the Ministry of Information, but any department which is not carrying out its duties with efficiency can expect criticism as well."

In addition to the Ministry of Information, which Lord Marley described as "one of the most outstanding failures" in dealing with the establishment of true understanding among neutral countries, the Ministry of Shipping and the Ministry of Economic Warfare had also come under opposition fire.

"Criticism is part of the buildup of democracy," he declared. "It is a part of the whole democratic idea. Perhaps you see the cloven hoof of Opposition here, but I must add that there are many aspects of Government policy to which we give fullest support."

Appreciation of Canada.

Great Britain, he said, was watching closely what was being done in Canada in connection with the task that lay ahead. He voiced appreciation of the Canadian spirit, based on "the sympathetic understanding of the rather greater difficulties the British Isles are facing, as a result of being nearer to the seat of fighting."

Canadians, he said, could contemplate the international situation and the prosecution of the war in a more detached spirit than the British, and this in turn would be valuable later on. Splendid help had already been forthcoming from Canada and other British Dominions, he added, and the Empire Air Training Scheme might turn out to be the most important contribution of all.

"I look for an immense but carefully guarded development of industrial production in Canada," Lord Marley said. "You have already shown by your marvellous response to the recent war loan, that you have a measure of prosperity here. That, I think, will increase as the war goes on."