DREW DEMANDS REDS BE BARRED AS TRUSTEES

Charges Anti-British Pamphlet Prepared by William T. Lawson

ON TORONTO BOARD

Conservative Leader Drew called on the Ontario Government yesterday in the Legislature to take immediate action toward preventing "supporters of atheistic barbarism" from having anything to do with the administration of educational bodies in the Province.

Colonel Drew's urgent plea was made as he placed before the members a pamphlet which, he said, on the basis of information which it contained, "was prepared by a committee under the chairmanship of William T. Lawson, a member of the Toronto Board of Education, although his connection with the Communist Party was not disclosed until after the election."

He read several paragraphs from the pamphlet, which charged that British imperialism had "hypocritically rearmed Germany," and that the same imperialism had abetted the loss of independence to Czecho-Slovakia, Austria and Poland.

All the time, the pamphlet read. "the Soviet struggled valiantly for peace." It described Britain and France as having tried to turn fascism against the land of socialism, and claimed that imperialist aggression, directed against Russia, had been the final influence leading to Russia's invasion of Finland.

"Quite apart from the fact that the pamphlet comes within the provisions of the Defense of Canada Regulations," said Colonel Drew, "there is a more important factor, and that is that a man who sat on the committee is now sitting as an elected representative on the School Board, which has the responsibility of applying the principles and teachings of the educational system, and of inculcating in the mirds of students the principles of Christian democracy."

Hon. Gordon Conant, Attorney-General, said the pamphlet came to his attention yesterday, and that law officers of the department were studying it to determine if it was a violation of the regulations.

"The policy has been adopted," said Mr. Conant, "of prosecuting in only those cases in which there has been a reasonable opportunity of convictions being secured."

Otherwise, explained the Attorney-General, there would be a tendency to glorify those against whom prosecutions were launched. "There hasn't been a single failure to convict in Ontario since the regulations were passed in Ontario," he added.