

Continuing, the Premier said that the Legislature was the parent body of the municipalities and these municipalities never hesitated to criticize the Legislature.

Says Ignored by Ottawa.

Similarly, the Province stood in the same position with the Federal Government, though the situation was not exactly a parallel. The Premier pointed out that on numerous occasions the Legislature had submitted resolutions to the Federal Government and no attention had been paid to them. He cited the litigation over the Canada Temperance Act and the resolution passed by the Legislature asking the Federal Government to rescind this act. This action was taken because British Columbia had held the act to be ultra vires, explained the Premier. Then there was another resolution dealing with discrimination in the matter of shipping Ontario and western wheat to the seaboard, continued Mr. Hepburn. No attention was paid to it by Ottawa.

"Then this Legislature, on March 23, declared a state of emergency existed and called on Ottawa to mobilize our resources," said the Premier. "No attention was paid to this resolution. Had some cognizance been taken of it, we would not have enlisted men half clad and we would not have a situation where after months of war not a single munition has been produced in this country.

"The Prime Minister charges we were ganging up on him. But he said in the press that at the proper time and place an opportunity would be given critics of the Government to voice their views. But a week later he said the resolution of criticism passed in the Ontario

Legislature was the reason for dissolution of Parliament. Two hundred and forty-five members and one hundred Senators converged on Ottawa from all parts of the country, their transportation paid by the Government.

"Did the Prime Minister mean it when he said an opportunity would be given his critics at the proper time and in the proper place?" asked Mr. Hepburn.

"You know, and I know, that weeks before, from the lips of his Ministers, it was said that at the first word of criticism Mr. King would dissolve the House."

Hits Treatment of Manion.

Mr. Hepburn said he was holding no brief for Federal Conservative Leader Manion, but Mr. King's treatment of Dr. Manion was "shameless." He referred particularly to the Royal tour of the Dominion.

"Mr. King's head appeared like a mud turtle," declared Mr. Hepburn. "Every time we wanted to see them we had to look at him.

"When Dr. Manion was asked to patriotically refrain from criticism, he agreed, in the knowledge that at the proper time and in the proper place, he would have an opportunity of speaking. Dr. Manion was not accorded the treatment he was entitled to as the leader of a great party. He was not permitted to get the evidence to support the charges he wished to make. It is well known that the Government must produce documents and records when questions are asked by the Opposition.

"Not only did Mackenzie King throttle all possibility of this evidence being obtained, but he went further," asserted Mr. Hepburn. "He said that before any one could speak over the radio in the campaign, the manuscript must be submitted to the Board of Censors which he set up

"These two things put the conduct of the late leader of the Graf Spee in disrepute." (The Premier later explained that he meant the conduct of Mr. King was more disreputable than that of the commander of the German pocket battleship.)

"The commander of the Graf Spee sank his ship rather than face three little British ships. But Prime Minister Mackenzie King, with the greatest numerical strength ever accorded any Canadian Prime Minister, scuttled the ship of State rather than face the criticism of Dr. Manion and his thirty-nine followers in the House of Commons.

"His conduct was shameful and I wish to dissociate myself from any action such as that, and assure the members of the Opposition that they will never receive such treatment here, although I, too, have great numerical strength in the Legislature," concluded the Premier.