

LIBERAL POINTS TO HEALTH AIDS FOR PROVINCE

**Dr. Duncan of London
Sees Postwar Task of
Planning Medical Help**

T.B. DEATHS FEWER

Irrespective of its source, a cancer cure will be accepted by physicians, Dr. A. S. Duncan (Lib., London) yesterday declared in the Queen's Park budget debate when he denied, what he said was a widely held opinion, that the medical profession was hostile to cancer research by laymen.

"The medical profession has long awaited a cure for this disease," said the member. "I would not associate myself with any organization which would stand in the way and I know that a cure will be accepted wherever it comes from."

Dr. Duncan, in his review of the Government's health program, paid tribute to the support given by Premier Hepburn and the administration by Hon. Harold J. Kirby and his department heads. "I know when it comes to expenditures for keeping people well the Prime Minister is all for it," said Dr. Duncan.

Of cancer cures and the investigations by the Ontario Cancer Commission, Dr. Duncan said the department bore a serious responsibility to see that people are protected from "unscrupulous individuals." He predicted that after the war the task of reorganizing medical services for the benefit of low income groups would fall upon the profession and the department.

The Government's policy in fighting tuberculosis has brought the Ontario death rate far below that of any other Province "and it's still going down." He believed the department was bringing effective control measures on venereal diseases. More and more, under advanced treatment policies, insulin shock and fever cabinets, patients in the mental hospitals are being returned to civil life.

On behalf of the University of Western Ontario he appealed for higher grants. Valuable scientific war work is being performed there, he said.

Duckworth Raps High Taxation.

Dr. Duncan was in disagreement with William Duckworth (Cons., Toronto-Dovercourt), on the effect of Hepburn Administration policies upon municipal tax rates. Mr. Duckworth claimed the 1937 income tax legislation took away \$2,500,000 from Toronto and returned the city only about \$800,000. He attributed the tax rate increases from 34.15 to 35.70 between 1935 and 1937, to the loss in income tax. The London member argued that subsidies and acceptance of old age pensions and mothers' allowances costs, together with liberal relief and highways policies had cut the municipal burden.

Mr. Duckworth charged "this Government has always been able to show a surplus because they have taxed the people more than previous Governments and have given them less for their money." During the past five years, the Government collected \$35,600,000 more than the previous Government collected in the five years preceding "and still the debt of the Province has increased more than \$114,000,000."

For the same two comparative five-year periods, Hepburn administration collections in corporations' tax were \$24,217,915 higher than those of the Conservative regime and gasoline tax collections were \$32,298,164 higher.

"Since 1934 the cost of foodstuffs has risen 14 per cent because of the high taxes on processing plants," he said. "That is the reason that the farmer gets little more for his produce than he did in 1934."

He suggested the \$12,600,000 surplus should be devoted to reducing the gasoline tax by three cents and the corporation tax by one per cent and that income tax collection should revert to the municipalities.