

DECKS CLEARED FOR HEPBURN BUDGET SPEECH

Conclude Throne Debate; No Amendments Made as Politics Forgotten

The Throne speech debate in the Ontario Legislature, shortest within memory of the oldest member, yesterday was adopted without amendment—the first time that the debate has been concluded without a division since Premier Hepburn entered the House in 1934.

By its adoption, in the time that it took the question to be laid formally before the House, the way was cleared for Premier-Treasurer Hepburn to lay the 1942-43 budget before the members today.

Early forecasts indicated that the Premier's address would be shorter than any of his previous seven budget speeches. This, together with the absence of division yesterday, was regarded as further evidence of the desire of the House to sweep aside political consideration in the interest of wartime unity in effort.

The closing hour of debate heard a sharp clash in opinion on the policy of bringing Japanese aliens from British Columbia to road and pulpwood camps in Northern Ontario. J. M. Cooper (Lib., Sudbury) held that if the Federal authorities felt that the Japanese population in British Columbia was a menace to the security of the Pacific coast, "then surely it is their duty to transfer them inland and remove this menace."

"I think it is quite right and proper that we should assist our sister Province in this regard and I congratulate this Government for the open-minded attitude it has adopted," he said.

In his own district, he offered as work projects the Chapleau, Timmins and Parry Sound Highways as "outstanding opportunities in this regard."

In contrast, William Duckworth (Cons., Toronto-Dovercourt) declared and declared repeatedly: "I am absolutely opposed to one Jap coming into Ontario."

After Hong Kong, he claimed, the Dominion Government "had absolutely no business asking this Province to take these men and keep them."

Mr. Cooper urged upon the members and upon the Government the responsibility of drafting plans for the postwar readjustment period. He suggested the appointment of an inter-departmental committee to survey the situation and report back to the House.

Legislators 'Get the Bird' And May Soon Need to Duck

The superstitious in the Ontario Legislature muttered darkly and made dire forecasts late yesterday when a bird fluttered about the chandeliers and the ornate mouldings on the ceiling.

Some held it was a sign of mourning. Out of ancient folk-lore there was dug the saying that when a bird enters a house a death in the family is foretold.

In the meantime, Works Minister F. R. Oliver and his staff are posed with the problem of getting rid of the bird. Gun fire was ruled out on the ground that, hit or miss, the Chamber itself might be damaged. When last seen, the staff was divided between a sling-shot school and a group that placed its faith in the blow-gun technique of the Upper Amazon region.