

High Cost of Liquor Drives Trade to Bootleggers, Claim

Protesting that the present "terrific cost of liquor is driving the liquor business into the hands of bootleggers," L. M. Frost (Prog. Con., Victoria), supported by T. A. Murphy (Prog. Con., Toronto-Beaches), had the Public Accounts Committee of the Legislature pass a motion yesterday to summon the chairman of the Ontario Liquor Control Board, Provincial Treasurer A. St. Clair Gordon, before that body today.

Mr. Gordon was ordered to bring "such books, contracts, reports and memoranda" as would explain: (1) Profits, fines, licenses, etc., amounting to \$13,000,000. (2) Permits fees

of \$750,800. (3) Cost and charges which go into the prices paid by the public for beer, wine and liquor, including manufacturers' costs, Dominion tax, administration costs and profits of the Ontario Liquor Control Board.

"It appears that the Liquor Control Board is charging a profit on the tax the Dominion Government imposes, and there is a good deal of public dissatisfaction," said Mr. Frost, who claimed liquor could be bought cheaper in Toronto from bootleggers than from Government liquor stores.

"Give us a few telephone numbers," chorused House members.

GLASS ALLEGES DISCRIMINATION

Race or Creed Grounds for Refusal of Jobs

As late as 1942 many loyal citizens of good character were refused jobs in Toronto and suburban war plants owned or controlled by the Department of Munitions and Supply simply because of their race or creed, John J. Glass (Lib., St. Andrew) charged in the Legislature yesterday. Mr. Glass spoke on the Budget debate.

An anti-discrimination bill introduced in the House recently was killed at first reading on a vote of the members, Mr. Glass, the sponsor, being the only one to raise his voice in favor of it.

Mr. Glass said there had been brought to his attention in the past few years hundreds of cases of discrimination in public places, in industry, in munition plants, "and, for a while, even in the armed forces." The only sin of the victims of this discrimination was that they belonged to a race or a faith which constituted a minority in the Province, he declared.

The member for St. Andrew told of various types of race discrimination practiced in Ontario, and declared that discrimination against individuals at bathing beaches, parks and picnic grounds was growing. The sign, "Gentiles Only," was the "negation of our democracy," Mr. Glass declared.

"When I suggest that these signs be removed, I do not ask for special privilege for any one," he continued. "I am asking for the protection of the elementary civil rights of our persecuted citizens.

"Our fighting youth is ready to make the greatest sacrifices to preserve our democratic way of life," continued Mr. Glass. "Thousands of men belonging to our minority groups are with them. Of my own faith, numbering only 165,000 in Canada, more than 10,000 are serving with the forces. At the crucial moment no one will ask them for their political, religious or racial passports."

COX SEES NEED TO STUDY NORTH

Charging Waste, He Seeks Group Survey

Appointment of a small committee to tour Northern Ontario "to see for themselves" the potentialities of that part of the Province, was urged in the Legislature yesterday by Charles W. Cox (Lib., Port Arthur), who charged that improper handling of the natural resources of the North had impaired its future.

"If necessary I shall bear the expense myself," said Mr. Cox in extending his invitation to the Government. "I can satisfy any group of reasonable men that the great area from Sudbury to the Manitoba boundary, 1,000 miles long and several hundred miles wide, would, if properly handled, support an immense population in perpetuity. But under the present conditions it is only a matter of time until it will be depleted of trees, animal life and soil, and become as barren as the Sahara Desert."

Mr. Cox was critical of past administration of the Lands and Forests Department. He asserted that the Lake Sulphite pulp plant about 60 miles east of Port Arthur was a "good example" of waste in public monies. The plant should never have been allowed to start in its present location, he contended, as it made necessary the spending of approximately \$500,000 in a townsite and "tremendous amounts" in public utilities.