

BUDGET VOTE ENDORSES DREW BY 50-27 COUNT

The Budget debate was concluded in the Legislature yesterday, with the Drew Budget receiving endorsement of the House by a vote of 50 to 27. Liberals and both Labor Progressive members voted with the Government on the main motion, and against a C.C.F. Opposition amendment defeated on the same vote. The House now goes into supply, and Premier Drew announced before adjournment that he would discuss estimates for various departments as they came up, including the school-tax relief.

A subamendment which J. B. Salsberg (L.P., Toronto St. Andrew) tried to offer on behalf of his group was disallowed by the Speaker.

The C.C.F. amendment which was defeated said: "This House regrets that His Majesty's advisers have not seen fit to acknowledge the necessity of undertaking measures on a fully democratic basis toward the planned development of the natural resources of this Province, and the social ownership of monopoly enterprises for the purpose of assuring full employment, adequate farm prices, and comprehensive social services." It was presented by Opposition Leader E. B. Jolliffe and Miss Agnes Macphail (C.C.F., York East).

While in some respects worthy, Mr. Jolliffe said Government policy was "in many respects inadequate." He hoped the administration "still will be aroused," but believed it his party's duty to register its protest at its inadequacy to date. "We do not believe that disaster is inevitable after the war," he said. "We do believe, however, that disaster will follow failure to take the appropriate democratic measures to reorganize our affairs on a sound basis."

Criticizes Tax.

Mr. Jolliffe added that "while we recognize the desirability of lightening the burden of real estate taxation on farmers and house owners, their financial position will depend more than anything else on income levels." He saw no reason why the Province "should continue on the same fundamental basis on which it has functioned since Confederation, which some call private enterprise, but which others of us prefer to call by a very different name." The Government, he felt, was not obliged to keep to the letter of its promise to relieve real estate of 50 per cent of education cost at once. "The principle could not have been equitably applied immediately," he said.

W. L. Miller (L., Algoma-Manitoulin) said that more thought should be given to rehabilitation, and criticized the \$100,000 set aside for planning and development as inadequate. Premier Drew explained that this was simply for the expenses of the new planning department. The four-year plan of the Highways Department, for instance, involved work done by its staff alone without extra help, yet involved an estimated cost of \$121 million for the south and \$70 million for the north.

Welcomes Suggestions.

The Planning and Development Department, the Premier said, would produce plans for housing, reconstruction, etc., on which suggestions of every member would be welcome. He assured the members that he would call the House at once if immediate fulfilment of plans became necessary.

Mr. Miller warned: "We are living in a fool's paradise in regard to our fish and game" and these assets will be obliterated in 10 years unless protected. Conservation was imperative.

Earlier in the session Mr. Salsberg declared Canada today is not in need of foreign capital and that Ontario is wealthier than in 1919. He advised that return by the Dominion of taxing rights after the war be not emphasized, but that responsibility for essential services be re-allocated.

He advocated setting aside a part of liquor profits for anti-liquor education.