

March 14

# MacLeod Invites Opposition Unite Toward Coalition

An invitation to the 52 Opposition members of the Legislature to unite against the 37 members of the Government to pave the way for a Labor-Liberal coalition Government in Ontario was extended in the House yesterday by the leader of the two-man Labor-Progressive group, A. A. MacLeod (Toronto-Bellwoods).

Concluding his contribution to the Throne Speech debate, Mr. MacLeod offered a 14-point program as a basis on which such a coalition Government, embracing C.C.F., Liberals, Labor-Progressives and Independents, could be established.

He proposed, he said, to submit an amendment which would remove all ambiguity as to all parties' lack of confidence in the Drew administration, which, with its leader, he described as "a disaster looking for a place to happen." United action of all parties, he urged, was needed so that the Progressive Conservative Party could not expand its present "beachhead" in Ontario into a "bridgehead" with Ottawa as final objective. Opposition members, he said, would have to have courage to take action that would "disrupt and destroy the Tory plans for power."

## Avoid Wartime Election

If the Government were defeated on amendments now before the House, he declared, it should resign and let an alternative Government serve out its full term, thus avoiding a wartime election.

He charged that if Premier Drew "thought he could carry the Province on the devil's brew of racial disunity he wouldn't hesitate a moment to dissolve this Legislature tomorrow. An alternative Government could do all the things this Government has refused to do. We have a solemn duty to defeat this Government and assume responsibility for the affairs of Ontario."

Touching on family allowances, Mr. MacLeod said Premier Drew had had little to say about the issue in recent months "until the beginning of this session, when he made a very feeble attempt to get out from under." He declared that "last autumn the Premier went into hiding, in fact he left the country to find a new issue."

The Premier had left the country (for his visit to England and Canadian troops overseas) "after dropping his Aug. 9 block-buster," Mr. MacLeod said.

Mr. MacLeod condemned the introduction of the Communist "red bogy" as the act of a "desperate politician," and giped at William Dennison (C.C.F., Toronto-St. David) that in a recent libel action over an election advertisement Mr. Dennison "got a certificate as a political virgin and \$1.02."

When he added that 42,000 people in Toronto had voted for Controller Stewart Smith, Labor-Progressive, Mr. Dennison countered: "He didn't use the label, did he?"

"If the Premier thinks he can bamboozle the people by the use of the Red bogy, he's in for a rude awakening," said Mr. MacLeod.