

March 22

Checked by Drew, Williams Protests Remark of 'Swine'

Tempers ran high in the Legislature late last night when Arthur Williams (C.C.F., Ontario), accused of conducting a filibuster after speaking for three hours, shouted at Premier George Drew: "You should be thrown out. That's the dirtiest remark any swine could possibly make."

Speaker W. J. Stewart banged his gavel sharply, but the C.C.F. member was not called upon to withdraw the remark.

During the flare-up Hydro Chairman George Challies (Grenville, Dundas) told J. J. Kehoe (C.C.F., Cochrane North) to "go jump in the lake." Mr. Kehoe replied: "The same to you."

The flurry of excitement began when Mr. Williams wound up his long address, which started the night before, and spoke of the time he had consumed.

"There are different ways of conducting a filibuster," remarked the Premier.

Mr. Williams banged his desk, leaned forward and made the statement in which the word "swine" was used. A little later the C.C.F. member remarked: "It's a pity he (Mr. Drew) came in at all. Well, he'll soon be out."

After adjournment of the House Mr. Williams went to the Premier and apologized for using the objectionable word.

Regarded as Insult

Mrs. Rae Luckock (C.C.F., Brantford) joined other C.C.F. members in demanding that the Premier be called to order for his filibuster remark. It was an insult to the Opposition members on her side of the House, she declared.

It was exactly 11 p.m. when Mr. Williams resumed his seat and F. O. Robinson (C.C.F., Port Arthur) rose and moved adjournment of the debate.

The Premier immediately called "Lost," signifying his opposition to adjournment.

"I was not aware of any intention to go on longer than 11 o'clock," said E. B. Jolliffe, C.C.F. Leader.

"The members on this side are prepared to co-operate in bringing the Throne Speech debate to an end tomorrow night."

"There was no thought of suggesting a later hour," said the Premier. "But, as Mr. Jolliffe is well aware, we had a time estimate on the speakers given by the whips. I have not raised any question more than any others."

Mr. Strange explained that the estimate was made by the whips and not the speakers. To this the Premier replied: "That helps us to understand it."

Estimate Exceeded

He said the House was proceeding with the understanding that the time allotted to the member for Ontario by the whip was an hour, but the estimate of one hour has lasted instead into the better part of four hours. "We might well go on into late spring before we get through this, let alone get on with the business of the House," concluded the Premier.

Mr. Jolliffe said he was prepared to let his other members go ahead with the debate and pointed out that the party leaders had finished their speeches only 10 days ago and that he, himself, shared the responsibility for the delay in the debate.

Force Against Labor

Early in his address Mr. Williams ran afoul of the Premier's rejoinders when he said both Liberal and Progressive Conservative Governments in their time had sent force against labor men during disputes and that tanks had been sent in one instance.

"We're not getting far rattling dead bones," the Premier told him after he had spent some time on the matter. And, the Premier added: "At no time has this Province owned tanks or Cardin-Lloyd machine gun carriers or other weapons. These belong to the Federal Government and a Liberal Government was in office at the time."

Robert Laurier (Lib., Ottawa East) declared the Bennett Government was in power at that time and the Premier retorted quickly: "I agree. It is most unlikely the Liberal Government had any army vehicles of any kind, so let's go on."

There was a call for order when Mr. Laurier hurled the remark at the Premier: "You're very jesuitic."

Dispute Between Boards

Later, discussing strained relations between the Ontario Labor Relations Board and the National War Labor Board which overruled its decision on Sylvanite and Wright-Hargreaves mine workers, Mr. Williams declared he understood, though he "could not quote chapter and verse," that "the Labor Relations Board will not order any further votes or make any further decisions until the validity of decisions already made about these mines is decided."

Just before midnight T. P. Murray (Lib., Renfrew South) adjourned the debate after F. O. Robinson (C.C.F., Port Arthur) had expressed criticism of the Government because so many of its key men had not yet spoken, though the people awaited a message on planning and development, highways, hydro and other matters.