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## Government Speaker Lauds Prohibition

The last gun fired in the Draft Address debate in the Legislature last week proved to be strongly charged with Prohibition arguments. The speaker was Hon. Horace Wright, 4th Prince, who was interrupted from both sides of the House during his statements on this controversial subject.



HON. HORACE WRIGHT

Hon. Mr. Wright: "So when he condemns these boards he is condemning his own political party."

Mr. E. H. Strong: "Our party didn't put them there. If you are foolish enough to take men that are not qualified, that is your own fault."

Prohibition  
The mover and seconder of the address had seen fit to make reference to the failure of the Prohibition Act. Mr. Wright said: "I do not know why these gentlemen referred to all this question, because it is not mentioned in the Speech of His Honour. However, both the members from First Prince (Mr. Bernard) and the member from First King's (Mr. Francis) made the statement that if we wished to encourage our tourists to come here, we must change our law. The implication was that under our present law our tourists could not secure a supply of alcoholic beverages. Was not that a confession that Prohibition does prohibit, and that if we change our law we are going to have a freer sale of liquor?"

"If it is the will of the people that we have freer sale, then it is the duty of the Legislature to carry out their will," Mr. Wright said. "But we are in any doubt about what that will is? I think we have been made acquainted with the will of the people in this regard better than on any question which will come before us at the present session. Time after time this question has been put to our people in the form of a plebiscite and once as a plank in a political platform at a general election. We know the result. On every occasion on which the question was submitted, the verdict was unmistakably against any freer sale of alcoholic beverages. Why then is this question brought up at this time?"

The Legislature, Mr. Wright claimed, had no mandate from the people to repeal the Prohibition Act, and anyone who suggested doing so was taking a step against the very principle of democracy for which Canadian soldiers are fighting in Europe today.

Legion Brief  
He was "more than surprised," Mr. Wright said, to read a few days ago that the Canadian Legion had appeared before the Government asking for a change in the Prohibition Law. "I was not present at that meeting. I had received no notification of it. I didn't know that the Legion was appearing before the Government."

until I saw it in the paper." Mr. Wright thought it a "remarkable thing that the Canadian Legion members went overseas in the last war and claim to represent the opinion of men who are overseas today, should ask the government to enact a law which is against the express will of the people."

"What are our boys fighting against that policy of Hitlerism for, which says a few men want to dominate the world?" he said. "When the Canadian Legion comes before this Government asking it to enact legislation against the expressed will of the people, and states that it represents 8,000 soldiers who are overseas, I think it is an insult to the men who are fighting our battles overseas."

"Who gave these men authority to represent our soldiers overseas? I have a son in the active forces of this country, and I am absolutely sure that he did not give them permission to represent the views of the Canadian Legion. I might very well question other statements which they have made."

"The fact that there was absolute silence in regard to this question in the last election campaign in 1936 would indicate that both political parties were satisfied that the people had stated their opinion in this respect, and there was nothing more to be said about it. So I claim that this Legislature has no mandate from the people to make any change whatever in our Prohibition Act."

Mr. Wright went on to cite some of the figures of the last plebiscite.

Mr. Leslie Hunter: "Might I ask the hon. member would he say that this Government has a mandate from the people to sell \$786,000 worth of liquor in fifteen months under the Prohibition Act?"

Mr. Wright: "The Government has a mandate from the people to sell liquor on prescription issued by the medical profession. Any liquor that is sold in this Province by the Government is sold on prescription."

Dr. MacMillan: "Not always, because while the lot are not doctors have been getting prescriptions."



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## First Eclipse Since Aug, '32

By DOUGLAS GREEN  
(Canadian Press Staff Writer)  
OTTAWA, March 27 — (CP) — Some Canadians will be scanning the sky through tinted glasses come July 9.

On that day, provided they are early risers, they will witness an eclipse of the sun, the first since Aug. 31, 1932, and the last until June 30, 1944.

Watchers living in Saskatchewan and Manitoba will have an advantage over residents of other provinces, for the eclipse in its total phase will be visible within a strip 40 to 50 miles wide running through southeastern Saskatchewan and north through Manitoba, and striking Hudson Bay at the Ontario-Manitoba border. Other parts of Canada will see the eclipse, but only partially.

The path of the total phase will originate with sunrise west of Butte, Montana, and the total eclipse will be visible from southwestern Saskatchewan to the extreme eastern section of Manitoba. For the first man to see it — probably an observer near Butte — the eclipse will last 20 seconds. The period of visibility will reach 47 seconds in Ungava and 76 seconds, the maximum, east of Greenland. The eclipse will continue over Hudson Bay, across Greenland, Hudson Strait and Baffin Land, on out into the North Atlantic, ending in Russia at sunset.

Dr. R. E. DeLury, of the Dominion observatory here, said today astronomical observations of the 1932 eclipse, visible in Quebec, was hindered by clouds.

Though the July eclipse will be visible only briefly, astronomers will be able to measure the electromagnetic effect of sunspots which, by varying the quantity or quality of the radiation received by the earth from the sun, produce changes in weather.

Dr. DeLury said he knew of no special preparations being made by Canadian astronomers to view the eclipse, though representatives in Prairie centres of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada no doubt would be on hand.

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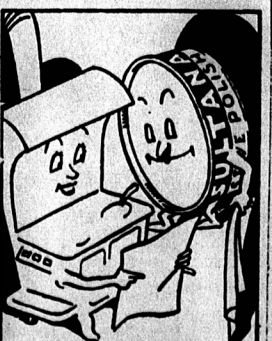
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