

ONTARIO BARS FILM 'CANADA AT WAR'

continent under convoy of the British Navy.

Producer Retorts to Hepburn

Louis de Rochemont, producer of the March of Time, in a statement issued here last night, said:

"In suppressing this film, Premier Hepburn is adopting tactics which were employed but once before in North America—by the late Henry P. Long, who banned the March of Time from all Louisiana theatres whenever its contents displeased the Kingfish.

"Our picture is straightforward pictorial journalism, and we are prepared to substantiate every statement which comes from the screen."

Hepburn Finds March of Time Item 'Political Propaganda' for King Regime

OTTAWA APPEAL UNLIKELY

Dominion Government Anxious to Avoid Censorship Issue, Either Way, in Campaign

By FREDERICK T. BIRCHALL

By Telephone to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

OTTAWA, March 4—A new film "Canada at War" in the March of Time series, prepared by the motion picture staff of Time, Inc., of New York, was banned today in Ontario by Premier Mitchell Hepburn in his capacity as chairman of the appeal board of the Ontario Board of Censors.

Mr. Hepburn has barred the film from exhibition in the Province until after the Dominion general election on March 26. He expresses no opinion as to whether or not it will be permitted after that date.

The reason adduced is that the film is "pure political propaganda for the Mackenzie King government," which Mr. Hepburn, although a Liberal, opposes on personal grounds. After announcing his decision Mr. Hepburn added:

"No party, the one in power or any other, is going to get away with that sort of thing.

"If they want to show the extent of Canada's war effort, let them show the hundreds of thousands of unemployed who are walking the streets looking for a chance to enlist or find work in industry at a time when the very security of the country is at stake.

"I would not allow a picture like this to be shown whether it was a National, a Conservative or a Liberal government in power."

Ottawa Likely to Avoid Test

There can be no appeal from this decision in Ontario, but the film will be shown in other Canadian provinces.

The Dominion Government apparently is not anxious to take an appeal. Ministers have been under heavy Conservative fire for ruling that all election speeches to be broadcast over the Canadian radio shall first be submitted to managers of the stations from which they are to be sent. Under this ruling sections of a speech by Colonel George Alexander Drew, leader of the Ontario Opposition, in which he detailed Canada's alleged shortages in various weapons and equipment, were deleted as giving information to the enemy.

Colonel Drew subsequently published the deleted sections, and since most Canadians hate censorship in any form, obtained a certain amount of sympathy. Now that his collaborator in opposition, Mr. Hepburn, is exercising a censorship of his own, the Dominion Government is disposed to let it go at that.

The film opens with a brief introduction in which Prime Minister W. L. Mackenzie King, sitting at his desk, outlines the government's war measures and then, afterward, Lieut. Col. J. L. Ralston, the Finance Minister, details the success and oversubscription of the first war loan.

Thereafter the film traces the activities of the Canadian National Defense Department in recruiting and training volunteers for home and overseas service in the army, navy and air force, the response of Canadian citizens to the first war loan, the speeding up of manufacturing of munitions and airplanes, thence leading up to the departure of the first Canadian overseas con-