

Premier Urges Substitute Work For Malton

The Federal Government should provide a reasonable substitute program in the Malton area to take care of the thousands affected by cancellation of the Arrow program, Premier Frost told the Legislature yesterday.

"The decision is of the highest importance and could have very momentous effects," Mr. Frost said. "Where the Ontario Government has a very definite interest and concern is in relation to the commitments made in relation to servicing the vast requirements of the Avro and Arrow projects."

He said these commitments were taken in good faith for schools, roads, sewers, waterworks, housing projects and many other things.

"We have never been consulted by the Ottawa Government now nor in the past in relation to defense requirements," he said. "The Canadian Government has a very definite responsibility and one which cannot be answered merely by a change of policy."

Opposition Leader Wintermeyer and CCF Leader MacDonald rose to agree vehemently. Mr. MacDonald suggested the province make every effort possible to take up the slack in employment and industry in the area if Canada fails to provide an alternative program.

"This move has within it the probability that the whole aircraft industry in Canada will not only be disrupted but scuttled," Mr. Wintermeyer said. "We feel this Government should bear the responsibility to confer with Ottawa on this problem."

He said Premier Frost should take steps to bring this attitude of the entire Legislature to the attention of the Federal Government and if necessary urge public support for the aircraft industry.

He said he was not prepared to debate the merit of the Arrow aircraft in relation to defense policy but was strongly in favor of encouragement to the aircraft industry.

Later, after the House had risen, the CCF leader said the Federal Government's timing of the announcement was callous.

"If such a decision had to be made, why should its timing be precisely at the period when we are heading into the peak unemployment period?" he asked. "This comes from a Government whose leader stated during the election campaign that no Canadian would suffer from unemployment while he was in power."