

ONTARIO PREMIER AUTHORIZES \$100,000 CREDIT FOR MARSH

Immediate credit, to the extent of \$100,000 by the Provincial Government, was promised by Premier Leslie Frost within a matter of minutes after his arrival by car to attend a meeting with the Holland Marsh Emergency Relief Committee, held in the Township of West Gwillimbury municipal office on Monday. The Premier, who was accompanied by Hon. Dana Porter, had previously received a close-up view of the flooded Marsh gardens and had been able to form some conception of the havoc wrought through the loss of homes, storages, valuable machinery and vegetable crops. George Horlings, head of the Central or Main Committee, was chairman for the occasion and no time was lost in getting down to business.

Premier Frost stated that he understood that there is a strong committee in charge already in Toronto for the relief and rehabilitation of the flood-stricken areas of the province. Referring to the local situation, he got in touch by telephone with the proper authorities in regard to the lowering of the water level in Lake Simcoe to aid the Drainage Commission in their efforts to drain the water from the marsh gardens area by the use of powerful pumps.

On behalf of the committee, of which he is a member, Hon. Earl Rowe laid the facts of the marsh situation before the Premier, informing him that while there is no suffering among the flood refugees for the want of clothing or lack of food, there is a vital and immediate need for money to bring in heavy machinery, pumps, etc., which are absolutely necessary to get the water off the land in as short a time as possible. Someone, he said, must pay the bills, and the municipalities concerned can not possibly do so without assistance.

Prompt financial aid, it was stressed, would probably save four-fifths of the Marsh and allow the gardens to be cropped again next spring.

Without further ado, Premier Frost came to the rescue with his statement that the Province of Ontario would give \$100,000 credit at once to the stricken Marsh area and instructed Manager A. L. Veale of Bradford branch of the Canadian Bank of Commerce and Mr McCurry of the head office of this bank, both of whom were present, to that effect. The Premier also assured the committee that immediately after his arrival back in Toronto he would contact the necessary people to secure additional large pumps and extra hydro to allow use of same.