

RIVAL COUNSEL PRESENT CASES AS CHALOULT TRIAL ADVANCES

Accused Member Was on
Stand All Yesterday
—Explains Speech

REMAND IS REFUSED

Montreal, July 9.—(CP)—
Counsel will present their
cases to-day before Judge
Edouard Archambault at the
trial of Rene Chaloult, Liberal
member of the Quebec legis-
lative assembly for Lotbini-
ere, on charges laid under
Defence of Canada Regula-
tions.

Remand Is Refused

Yesterday, Mr. Chaloult was on
the witness stand throughout the
day. Crown Prosecutor Gerald
Fauteux cross-examined him for
two hours during the afternoon ses-
sion and later asked the court for
a 10-day remand to allow time for
transcription of the stenographer's
record of testimony and prepara-
tion for a written plea. Judge
Archambault, however, refused the
remand and said the trial would be
resumed to-day.

Mr. Chaloult, testifying at the
morning session, said the speech he
made here May 19 consisted of a
series of arguments which aimed
to convince the government that
there was every reason "not to im-

pose conscription for overseas ser-
vice."

Explains Statement

He testified that the statement
he made May 19, that French-Can-
adians would never consent to
fight France was a warning to the
government that this "unnatural"
act would provoke "unwelcome
disorders." He said similar disor-
ders would take place if the "people
of Toronto were ordered to bomb
the city of London."

Mr. Chaloult said he had tried to
prove in his speech that propor-
tionately speaking, Canada's war
effort was greater than all other
allied nations, such as Russia, the
United States, China and England.
As proof, he said, he mentioned the
\$1,000,000,000 gift to Britain, an
army of 500,000 men for a popula-
tion of 11,000,000 and the higher
taxes in Canada than in Britain.

The accused said these arguments
were "in answer to those who
call us slackers and claim our war
effort is weak in Quebec."

Stresses Unity

Later, Mr. Chaloult said that
"ever since the war started I have
always tried to demonstrate how
Canada's war effort would profit
through a better understanding of
the French-Canadian's mentality
and a fairer treatment all around."

When cross-examined by Mr.

Fauteux, Mr. Chaloult said his op-
position to participation in this
war was because it was an "im-
perialistic war" and "would inevi-
tably lead to conscription for over-
seas."

He said the "no" vote of Quebec
in the plebiscite had impressed him
as an affirmation of French-Can-
adian unity, but in his speech, he
continued, he had not intended to
infer that national unity was not
important.

"All I said is that I considered
French-Canadian unity as more
important, thus indicating that I
felt national unity was important,"
he stated.

149

WAR

EUROPEAN

1939

CANADA

CONSCRIPTION

PLEBISCITE

059-033-004

201
F