

Quashing Of Convictions In Dresden Hit By CCF

TORONTO (CP) — Donald C. MacDonald, Ontario CCF leader, said today last week's quashing of the convictions of two Dresden restaurant keepers accused of discriminating against Negroes by refusing to serve them "makes nonsense of the (Ontario) Fair Accommodation Practices Act."

In a statement commenting on the decision last Friday on the appeals by Morley McKay and Mrs. Anne Emerson, Mr. MacDonald said a Kent county judge's interpretation "not only violates the spirit of the act as spelled out by

the government and all parties in the legislature but it also renders the legislation totally ineffective."

Judge Henry E. Grosch of Chatham ruled that the crown had not proved beyond reasonable doubt that service was denied because of color.

Mr. MacDonald said:

"Thus interpreted, conviction under the act becomes possible only if the proprietor comes out and bluntly refuses service personally with some such comment as, 'look, you black nigger, you're getting nothing here.'"