

# LIVELY BREEZE BLOWS ALL DAY IN LOCAL HOUSE

Member for South Brant Has  
His "Crowded  
Hour"

"THE RETORT IN KIND"

"Patronage" Has Large  
Place in Day of  
Recriminations

Labor's little internal controversies, which during the session have been bubbling up on the floor of the Legislature, overflowed yesterday until they engulfed Premier, Attorney-General, Minister of Labor, Hon. Mr. Ferguson and H. H. Dewart, K.C. M. M. MacBride, who this session crossed the floor of the House to the Opposition benches, precipitated the discussion when he undertook to prove that Hon. Walter Rollo, Minister of Labor, was under tacit agreement with the Government not to introduce eight-hour-day legislation.

Attorney-General Raney became involved when he attempted to back up Hon. Mr. Rollo's contention before Mr. Speaker, that Mr. MacBride had no right to read unofficial newspaper extracts to prove his case. When, near the conclusion of the controversy, Premier Drury arose to express the opinion that the member for South Brant had failed to prove his case, Hon. Mr. Ferguson and Mr. H. H. Dewart, K.C., both jumped to their feet. The Conservative Leader caught the Speaker's eye first and he proceeded to criticize the Premier's taste in deciding an issue which the House and the electorate only could decide.

## MacBride's Big Day.

In one way or another Mr. MacBride occupied the centre of the Legislature stage during the whole of yesterday afternoon. The House did not reach the debate on the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne at all, because, after the first issue had been settled, Mr. MacBride proceeded to press his motion for a return of all correspondence between J. W. Mallon and the Attorney-General. Whereas Mr. MacBride conceived such correspondence to relate to the appointment of Government Patronage Committees in each riding, it was explained by Hon. Mr. Raney that it concerned only the naming of 10 or 12 citizens in each riding to place upon questionnaires their views as to possible improvement in Civil Service administration.

In Mr. MacBride's first speech he was interrupted by Hon. Walter Rollo when he proceeded to read extracts from The Globe and The Border City Star to support his claim that, at the Windsor meeting of the Trades and Labor Congress the Minister of Labor had stated that for Labor to press for eight-hour-day legislation would involve losing the Mothers' Pensions Act. Hon. Mr. Rollo claimed the member for South Brant had no right to

read the newspaper reports, but only the official minutes of the meeting. He appealed to the Speaker for ruling.

## Many Members Take a Hand.

Hon. Mr. Ferguson—The member for South Brant is entitled to bring anything he has to substantiate his position.

Hon. Mr. Raney—I take issue with the member from Grenville.

Hon. Mr. Ferguson—I expected you would.

Hon. Mr. Raney declared it was absolutely opposed to all Parliamentary rulings to permit a member to substantiate statements by "something written down by a reporter."

The Speaker having ruled in the meantime that Mr. MacBride could read the newspaper articles and address the House within certain limits, the member from South Brant retorted, "I bow to the ruling of Mr. Speaker and not to that of the Attorney-General."

Hon. Mr. Rollo—If one paper is going to be quoted—

Members—Order! Order!

Hon. Mr. Rollo—Others can also be quoted, and I want that understood.

Then Mr. MacBride proceeded to read a newspaper clipping to the effect that Hon. Mr. Rollo had told Sir Adam Beck during the Chippawa development labor trouble that he would have a strike on his hands if he attempted to institute a more than eight-hour day.

## Then Came the Ruction.

Hon. Mr. Rollo rose in his seat and denied that there was any dispute about the eight-hour day. "Stick to what is true," he told Mr. MacBride.

Mr. MacBride—I demand a retraction. That is not a word one gentleman should use to another. I had similar slurs thrown at me the other day by the Attorney-General. The Minister must retract.

Premier Drury attempted to pour oil on the troubled waters by pointing out that "stick to the truth" was an admonition that might politely be directed to any member of the House.

Hon. Mr. Ferguson—Surely the dignity of this House is to be maintained. The inference was that the member for South Brant was not sticking to the truth.

Mr. Speaker thought the Minister ought to retract, and the Minister of Labor did.

The atmosphere once more cleared, Mr. MacBride proceeded to read newspaper reports of the Windsor meeting, wherein Hon. Mr. Rollo was quoted as advising that "Labor should not jeopardize the chance of obtaining other beneficial legislation, such as the Mothers' Pensions Act, through pressing their demands for the eight-hour day on the Chippawa development."

## Premier to the Rescue.

Premier Drury made a brief address, in which he declared that Mr. MacBride had not proved his charge against the Minister of Labor. "Speaking for the Government," he declared, "it is not true. The Mothers' Pension Bill was not questioned, and was never a matter for bargaining at all."

Hon. Mr. Ferguson again rose. It was a sorry spectacle, he said, to see in the Legislature a Premier or a Minister get up and draw conclusions for the House after a question of privilege had been discussed. "I disagree entirely with the Prime Minister," he said, "and—"

Cries of "Order" interrupted.

Hon. Mr. Ferguson—I will move the adjournment of the House if necessary.

Premier Drury—Well, move it.

Hon. Mr. Ferguson—If we are going to observe any decorum in this house—

Attorney-General Raney—Order.

Hon. Mr. Ferguson—I am quite in order, Mr. Attorney-General. If my friend the Attorney-General will keep as closely to the rules of this House as I do he will keep himself pretty busy.

Mr. MacBride—If there is any doubt I will go to the trouble of getting the shorthand notes of the Windsor meeting.

Hon. Mr. Rollo—All right, produce them.