

Then, before proceeding with his next issue, Mr. MacBride demanded a retraction from the Attorney-General for declaring in the House the day previous that certain statements of Mr. MacBride's were founded on "gas." As it all happened 24 hours previously, the new issue was more or less laughed out of court.

Patronage Question.

The notice of motion provocative of heated debate was read from the order paper by Mr. MacBride. Briefly, it asked for a return of all correspondence between the Attorney-General and J. W. Mallon, or between Mr. Mallon and any members of the U. F. O. or Labor groups, upon the subject of "naming a committee of ten or twelve citizens in each constituency for the purpose of advising the Government in connection with appointments to the Civil Service." The speaker referred to the circular he had received, in common with other members, and went on to express his opinion of the document.

"Will the honorable member read that circular?" asked the Provincial Secretary, Hon. Mr. Nixon.

"I will in due time," was the reply. "I'll read more than you'll like before I get through."

The member from Brant wanted to know what lay behind the missive he had received. "We are interested in finding out just what system is in vogue in the inner circles regarding patronage," he stated. "Isn't Mr. Mallon a clerk or employee of the Attorney-General? From whom did he get his instructions? How did he carry them out? Where are the replies to the circular? What use is being made of them? I want to know—I have a right to know—how patronage is being handled in this Province. We are not told in the Speech from the Throne."

Deals With Premier.

The member proceeded to read letters he had written to the Premier and the Attorney-General on the matter, with some of the replies thereto. To the Premier he pointed out that he would regard any such action as the circular asked him to take as an insult to the great majority of his constituents, whose votes in his favor had carried with them the voters' confidence in him as their representative. Premier Drury's reply to this protest, Mr. MacBride declared, ended with the expression: "Perhaps we can see our way clear to get along without you," referring to his refusal to co-operate in the manner suggested.

The speaker next cited instances of appointments in his constituency, regarding which, he claimed, he had not been consulted. In one instance he had written the Attorney-General, expressing the opinion that the latter evidently had established a spy system suited to his taste, a system resembling that used by the Hohenzollern during the war. To this letter he had received no reply. At the time he had written as Mayor of Brantford. (Laughter.)

Who Laughs Last.

"Laugh! Laugh all you like," was the hot retort of the Laborite to the merriment on the Government benches. "I don't mind your laughter! You won't have much chance to laugh during the rest of the session!" In closing, Mr. MacBride described himself as a "temperance man" who was not suited with the administration of the O. T. A.

Rising to reply, shortly before adjournment, the Attorney-General stated that he believed there was not a member in the House, irrespective of party, who had not consulted him in regard to appointments in his particular riding, a statement that brought from Major Tolmie a mildly expostulatory: "All appointments?"

Hon. Mr. Raney then answered Mr. MacBride in a few sentences. There never had been, he stated, any such correspondence as was implied in the notice of motion. The citizens referred to had in no sense comprised a "committee" in any single constituency. Mr. Mallon had been with the Public Service Commission as its Secretary, appointed by the commissioners themselves and not by the Government.

Mr. Ferguson Again.

At this point Hon. Howard Ferguson interrupted to point out, briefly that, apparently the member for South Brant had improperly worded his notice of motion. What

he wanted to ascertain, in effect, was whether or not there were on file anywhere the replies of members to the circular that had been sent to them.

"No doubt there were replies, and no doubt they are with the commission," replied the Attorney-General. Premier Drury supplemented this with the statement that if the member for Brant would re-word and re-submit his motion there was no doubt the letters could be secured. "Personally," he stated, "I have no objection to the bringing in of a waggon load of letters if they are available."

GRIST FOR MILL IN QUEEN'S PARK

Private Bills Will Keep Legislative Grinders in Employment

CITY CONTRIBUTES SHARE

Yesterday provided a field day for members of the Legislature in so far as the introduction of private bills was concerned, and a large number of the rank and file grasped the opportunity to supply their share of grist for the legislative mill.

Capt. Jos. Thompson, Toronto, introduced a bill respecting matters appertaining to the city of Toronto. This measure provides that the City Council, without consulting the electors, may pass a by-law for the issuance of city of Toronto general consolidated loan debentures for \$253,000, this sum to be divided as follows: \$103,000 to defray the excess cost of a relief sewer on Bloor street, from the Garrison Creek sewer, Willowvale Park, to Lansdowne avenue, and \$150,000 for the erection of a building on the grounds of the Canadian National Exhibition to house exhibits of the Food Products Association.

Regarding Motors.

Hon. F. C. Biggs' bill to amend the Motor Vehicles Act will allow fire vehicles on duty to exceed legal speed limits. It will enforce the placing of license numbers on vehicles in a prominent position, and will enlarge the terms under which defacement of numbers may be dealt with by law. Another bill from the same Minister provides that vehicles may pass standing street cars at points where safety zones are located.

"While I was elected by the voters of Parry Sound, I also was elected to represent the Province," warmly declared R. R. Hall, Liberal, Parry Sound, when a member asked why he should introduce a bill to provide a Town-planning Commission for the city of Ottawa. Mr. Dewar further explained that Mr. Hall was acting in the absence of the member for East Ottawa, J. A. Pinard.

To Aid Reforestation.

A bill empowering the Lands Department to set aside Crown lands for reforestation purposes and to secure agreements respecting the use of privately-owned areas for the same purpose was introduced by Hon. Beniah Bowman. This Minister also introduced a bill respecting a new money grant for Northern Ontario.

Other private bills dealt with the cities of Peterboro', Belleville and Chatham, and the towns of Ford, Riverside and Gananoque.

A bill relating to a new scale of taxation of mining companies was explained briefly by Hon. Harry Mills, Minister of Mines.