

vigorous retort and denial.

Characterizing I. Scher, the man who, when arraigned for selling liquor, pleaded finally that he was President of a certain religious body, as a confessed perjurer, who had disposed somehow of 116 cases of liquor, T. H. Lennox announced to the House that through the efforts of his counsel, J. W. Curry, K.C., the Attorney-General had remitted half of his \$1,500 fine and lightened the 30-day imprisonment penalty. Meantime, said Mr. Lennox, various widows, with numerous children, languished in jail because they were unfortunate enough to have employed other counsel than the member for Southeast Toronto.

A Few Sharp Exchanges.

The cross-floor controversy between Mr. Lennox and the Attorney-General was waged principally over the issue as to whether Hon. Mr. Raney had written letters to Police Magistrates demanding more stringent penalties, the minimum fine for selling to be \$1,000.

"Can the honorable gentleman produce such a letter?" asked Hon. Mr. Raney, on the first interruption.

"I cannot produce one at the moment," replied Mr. Lennox.

"Well, then, withdraw," tersely commanded the Attorney-General.

Mr. Lennox—Will you deny such letters were written?

Hon. Mr. Raney—Certainly I will.

Mr. Lennox—Well, then, I will produce it.

Later on the Attorney-General, in his reply, was denying that he had instructed for increased fines, and Mr. Lennox interrupted to remind him that Magistrate Denison, on the Bench in the Toronto Police Court, had stated in court that he had received such a letter from the Attorney-General. Hon. Mr. Raney suggested that Col. Denison was joking, to which Mr. Lennox retorted: "Well, then, he was having his joke every day. He says it every day."

Would Produce Letters.

Still later in the discussion Mr. Lennox interrupted further references by Attorney-General Raney to the supposed letters with: "You had better not labor that point, Mr. Attorney-General, because I am going to produce it."

"I will tell the House what the letter is," broke in Hon. Mr. Raney. And he proceeded to tell of letters he had written to Magistrates calling attention to the provision in the act for the penalty of imprisonment. "I will give the letter to the House, and the members can read it."

"The member for Southeast Toronto (Mr. Curry) has just the same influence with me as other honorable members have," went on Hon. Mr. Raney, "and that is none at all."

In the Scher case, he said, Mr. Curry had not spoken to him about his appeal for remission of the fine until after the License Board had dealt with the whole matter in the usual manner. Once when, in the vehemence of his denial, the Attorney-General characterized Mr. Lennox's charges as "reckless and without foundation," Hon. G. H. Ferguson appealed to the Chair. Mr. Speaker ruled the words unparliamentary, and Hon. Mr. Raney had to withdraw.

Before the discussion concluded J. W. Curry, K.C., arose to corroborate what the Attorney-General had said. It was his firm conviction, he said, that there had been a miscarriage of justice in the Scher case, and so he had appealed to the License Board for a remission of the fine.