

cause found unworthy? Also, since when did you send out instructions that no man was to be employed on this work without his character being looked into?

Attorney-General—If the honorable member will put his questions on the order paper, they will be answered.

Asked by Hon. Mr. Raney whether, under the late Conservative Administration, there had not existed the same provision for securing convictions under the O.T.A., Mr. Lennox replied that the same type of men had not been employed by Hon. W. D. McPherson when Provincial Secretary.

"My honorable friend (Mr. Raney)," the member for North York continued, "has been practising at the Bar for a longer time than I have —"

Mr. Evans—Which bar?

Mr. Lennox—Both! (Laughter and applause.)

Following the interruption Mr. Lennox stated that the County Judge, to whom he thought appeals should go, was a more detached official than a Police Magistrate, being responsible solely to the Dominion Government. Outside of one or two instances, he declared, cases resulting in convictions before Magistrates had not averaged much more than ten minutes in length, yet in many cases sentences running up into years had been imposed.

"Instructions" to Magistrates.

Reading a letter sent by the Attorney-General to the Magistrates of the Province, Mr. Lennox said that the latter officials were quite capable of interpreting the statutes without advice from the Attorney-General, who had seen fit to send written "instructions" to them in July last.

The word "instructions" brought from the Attorney-General a demand for retraction.

"I cannot and will not do that unless I am forced to do so," was the response. "What right has the Attorney-General to direct the Magistrates of this Province?"

Hon. Mr. Raney explained that in one or two instances Magistrates had stated that they would not enforce the Ontario Temperance Act, and it was because of one or two such cases that he had asked all Magistrates to interpret the law in accordance with the will of the Legislature.

"I want my honorable friend to understand," said the Attorney-General, "that if any Magistrate states that he is not in sympathy with and will not enforce any law in this Province I'll ask for his resignation." (Applause.)

"Men With Guns on Hip."

"I have defended many bootleggers who were guilty and very few who were innocent," stated Mr. R. L. Brackin of West Kent, in taking up the debate. "I have no sympathy with the bootleggers. But I want to say that any trouble in Ontario arises not from the sale of liquor in the Province of Ontario, but from the fact that a very large section of the public cannot see why the Government should

spend thousands of dollars, have men going up and down with guns on their hips and have men sent into eternity on a moment's notice."

Mr. Brackin contended that public opinion was very much against the expenditure by Ontario of thousands of dollars to prevent liquor being shipped into Michigan when the Michigan authorities did not spend anything to try to keep it out.

Continuing, the member for West Kent quoted what he considered to be numerous instances of injustice under the O.T.A. He did not believe much good would come from appeal to the County Judge on the evidence taken by the Magistrate. His suggestion to the Government was that there should be the right of election to be tried by Magistrate or County Judge, and from that verdict there should be no appeal.

M. M. MacBride, South Brant, who closed the debate yesterday, expressed the opinion that for 50 years past legal minds had made a muddle of temperance legislation and its enforcement. He had looked for better things with the coming of law-makers who were not lawyers. Complaint and criticism common in the Province because of the O.T.A. were due entirely to the matter of enforcement, he felt, and not to the act in itself.

MOTHERS' PENSIONS SUBJECT OF CLASH AMONG LEGISLATORS

Demand Made That Rev. Peter Bryce be Compelled to Give Up Chairmanship of Referendum Committee and Give All His Time to Pension Work

GROSS INJUSTICES CHARGED BY M.P.P.'S

Charges of maladministration of the Mothers' Pension Act, launched in the Legislature by T. Maglavery, Conservative member for Timiskaming, brought on a discussion which lasted throughout the greater part of yesterday afternoon. Various members joined Mr. Maglavery in condemning what they believed to be laxity on the part of members of the Provincial Board, and the particular demand was made that Rev. Peter Bryce, Chairman of the board, be compelled by the Government to relinquish his chairmanship of the Referendum Committee and devote all his time to mothers' pension work.

The member for Timiskaming made special reference to two widows with children whose financial position he said he knew to be serious. One of the widows he had reference to, who had six children, had received only one cheque since the act came into force. The other, with two children, had received none.

Members Disappointed.

He voiced the complaint that the act was not being administered as members of the House had hoped it would be when they gave it support in the Legislature. Of the 60 or 70 widows in his district entitled to pensions, he believed only 16 had ever received the promised cheques.

Interrupted by Premier Drury, and asked if he realized the seriousness of the charges he was making, Mr. Maglavery replied: "Yes. I am making a serious statement and charge against the department administering the Mothers' Allowance Act." He declared to the House that the investigator chosen by the Government for his district of Timiskaming was the lobbyist of the Labor party in the House all last session. He had met Wm. Stevenson, the investigator, he said, wandering about the streets of New Liskeard, completely lost. It was lamentable, he declared, that a man who knew absolutely nothing about the North country, and who admitted he had never been north of North Bay, should have been chosen as Inspector for a North country district. Mr. Maglavery asked for a full investigation.

Finds Ready Seconder.

Endorsing the statements of the member for Timiskaming as to the delays in the issuance of pensions, M. M. MacBride, Brantford, declared he was quite prepared to move or second a motion for the appointment of a committee of investigation. He believed that political connections had influenced the Government in the appointment of some Inspectors, and protested that male Inspectors should be chosen at all to inquire into the affairs of the needy widows.

H. Hill, Conservative member for Ottawa, pointed out that for three weeks he had a resolution on the order paper asking for certain information concerning Mothers' Pen-