

ance Act. In that regard, he thought, it did not "lie in the mouths of the gentlemen opposite, with pious hypocrisy," to impute motives to others who did not see eye-to-eye with them, but who were no less concerned than they regarding the enforcement of any act upon the statute books.

"I resent the suggestions being made," he went on, "and I know they have been made with full, deliberate malice, in so far as I am concerned, in an effort to discredit me. I resent any and every attempt such as is now being made—and in this particular instance by a paper of the standing of The Globe—to discredit gentlemen on this side of the House."

No member on the Government side, apart from Premier Drury, took part in the unscheduled debate on the O.T.A.

LIVELY RUMPUS OVER SAWLOGS

Question in Legislature Re
Sawing Lumber Starts
Merry Row

BRIEF QUERY AND REPLY

A stormy quarter-hour was precipitated yesterday in the Legislature when Hon. Howard Ferguson requested from the Minister of Lands and Forests an answer to a question on the order paper in the name of Mr. W. H. Price (Parkdale). The query asked for the average percentage of over-run in lumber, cut from logs, over the amount indicated by what is known in lumbering as the "Doyle rule."

The member for Grenville put his question just as Hon. Beniah Bowman left his seat, and Premier Drury rose to remark that, while the answer was available, the data upon which it was based required verification, which might take some time to secure.

The Row Starts.

The Premier scarcely had resumed his seat when Hon. Mr. Bowman, overhearing the discussion, returned to his chair.

"I see the Minister himself is now in the House," stated Hon. Mr. Ferguson. "Perhaps we can have the answer."

"I have the answer here," replied the Hon. Mr. Bowman, "but it has not been sworn to, and I think the hon. gentleman should wait until it has been sworn to."

In a moment the "row was on" in earnest.

Hon. Mr. Ferguson, restating the words of the Minister, that he had an answer ready, appealed to the Speaker.

"The answer is here, Mr. Speaker, and, I submit, should be given to this House," he said. "If incorrect, it can be amended later."

The Attorney-General arose, whereupon the Leader of the Conservative group pressed his appeal to the Chair.

"I have asked for your ruling," he said, warmly. "Mr. Speaker, I have appealed to you for a ruling."

Sharp Retorts.

Hon. Mr. Raney held the floor, whereupon the member for Grenville informed him that he could not speak unless to appeal to the House against the ruling of the Speaker.

"Who said so?" came from Hon. F. C. Biggs. "You're not the Speaker!"

"No, but I know a lot more about the rules of this House than you do," retorted Hon. Mr. Ferguson, who again drew to the Speaker's attention the fact that the Attorney-General still refused to take his seat.

As if to settle the turmoil, Hon. Mr. Bowman joined the Attorney-General on the floor and was about to answer the question in some

manner when his Cabinet colleague impatiently moved him into his chair. What the Attorney-General said was not clear in the noise in the Chamber, though the words "No! no!" came distinctly to the Press Gallery.

Who is Leader?

The peremptory gesture with which the Attorney-General silenced the Minister of Lands and Forests again brought emphatic utterance from the Conservative Leader.

"Who is leading this House?" he demanded. "Is it the Attorney-General? Is he the mainspring of this Government?"

Here the Speaker ruled that the Minister of Lands and Forests should answer the question, which Hon. Mr. Bowman did in a brief sentence: "The average over-run is 100.1 per cent., and the highest 171.9 per cent."

Ferguson is Bland.

"Thank you," came blandly from the member from Grenville, whose query had provoked an extraordinary scene.

A moment later Premier Drury—who had been silent throughout the whole affair—left the chamber. With him went Hon. Mr. Bowman. Together they entered the Speaker's chamber. What transpired in the privacy of Hon. Nelson Parliament's well-appointed office was not apparent from the attitude of either, when, together, they returned to their seats an hour later.

PREFERS SERIOUS CHARGES AGAINST ADMINISTRATION OF FISH AND GAME LAWS

Member for Parry Sound
Declares There Are Summary
Convictions and
Confiscation of Property
at Drum-head Trials

MINISTER PROMISES AN INVESTIGATION

Serious allegations of irregularities in the administration of the fish and game laws in the Parry Sound district were made in the Legislature last night by R. R. Hall, Liberal member for Parry Sound, who resumed the Budget debate. In the midst of Mr. Hall's utterances Hon. Harry Mills promised that if proper evidence were forthcoming dismissals of certain North country officials would follow.

Mr. Hall complained vehemently of "drum-head" trials in the bush and at settlers' farm houses, conducted by officious departmental officials, at which the accused were summarily convicted, fined, and their property confiscated. He named an overseer who was alleged to have collected on his own responsibility \$20,000 in fines in four months. None of these convictions, nor numerous others of which he complained, had been properly recorded in district records. He quoted an instance of a Police Magistrate being approached on the subject of imposing only maximum fines.

Fined Without Trials.

He displayed a communication from a reputable northerner which expressed the opinion that the majority of the fines in the North country had been imposed without formalities of trial. Various sections, he said, complained also that there was little or no law enforcement.

"Who is responsible for this law?" demanded Attorney-General Raney when Mr. Hall quoted an instance of a man wrongfully fined.

"I think the Farmers' Government," answered the member for Parry Sound. "They passed the law