

last year."

Mr. Hall gave instances of settlers being summarily dealt with and fined by overseers or inspectors, who claimed to find them in possession of bear meat out of season. No trial had been held in some of these cases, the member said, and he read a letter from Crown Attorney Hicks of Parry Sound, which went to show that there seemed to be operating in the North country departmental officials, real or alleged, who were "well worth watching."

Furs Misappropriated.

"I do not believe that the department gets one-half of the furs that are confiscated, or one-half of the fines that are imposed," stated the member.

Mr. Hall touched upon Hydro development, referring to the Chippawa scheme as the "Chippawa sink-hole," in which, he said, the Province was apt to sink beyond hope of recovery. He professed admiration for Sir Adam Beck, but felt that the Government was putting into Hydro schemes money that "it will never get out."

"Toronto is thinking of Toronto only," declared Mr. Hall, in regard to Hydro problems. Proposed radial lines, in his opinion, were highly prized by Torontonians because of their potential value as feeders to civic lines and for no other reason. Toronto newspapers made a point of giving their readers only "the Toronto side of this question," and the member for Parry Sound said he hoped that the Toronto Press would repeat his statement to that effect.

Anti-Hydro Propaganda.

M. M. MacBride, rising to a point of order, stated that Mr. Hall was reading a "voluminous speech," which he characterized as "propaganda against Hydro projects."

"I'll be able to give the honorable member from Brant something to think about before I get through," retorted Mr. Hall. "He is getting jealous."

"The idea is to concentrate everything in Toronto," the member continued. "Have one little country named Toronto, in lieu of Canada, or Ontario, at least. Where do the farms and villages come in? They are paying this account as well as Toronto. Why should they pay their share and then get only what Toronto has left over? I am for Hydro, but I want it to be used for all the people of Ontario who want to use it."

Mr. Hall concluded his address at 11 o'clock, after having spoken for two hours, and J. Joynt, Conservative member for North Huron, moved adjournment.

MINISTER'S ANSWER DRAWS TORY CHEERS

SEE PARTIAL INDICATION FOR LEADER IN "OVER-RUN" FIGURES

Conservatives in the Ontario Legislature were jubilant last night over what they interpreted as a partial vindication by Hon. Beniah Bowman of their Leader, Hon. G. H. Ferguson.

Some months ago the Timber Commission established 55 per cent. as the maximum reasonable over-run on lumber sawn from logs.

Yesterday in the Legislature, in reply to a question on the order paper, Hon. Beniah Bowman stated that in a score of mills throughout the Province, where careful account had been kept for research purposes, the average over-run had been 100.1, and the maximum over-run 171.9 per cent.

The statement was greeted with thunderous applause from Conservative benches.

ASHPLANT OF LONDON STIRS UP A BIG ROW OVER BRIBERY TALK

Ex-Alderman and Labor Man Taken to Task by Legislature Members — May be Summoned Be- fore Committee to Ex- plain

MOVE TO CLEAN UP OTHER CHARGES

Four separate insinuations of bribery and corruption in legislative affairs are to be probed by the Privileges and Elections Committee of the Ontario Legislature. The House took up in very serious fashion yesterday the utterances of ex-Ald. Ashplant before the London City Council, as reported in The Globe, that members of the Legislature "could and might" be bribed in connection with the London City Gas Company legislation, and upon the motion of Hon. G. H. Ferguson, decided to include in an investigation reported statements of R. W. E. Burnaby, President of the U.F.O. Co-operative Society; Andrew H. Hicks, U.F.O. member for South Huron, and D. J. Taylor, U.F.O. member for North Grey.

Have Him Before Committee.

K. K. Homuth, Labor member for South Waterloo, directed attention to the despatch reporting Mr. Ashplant's alleged statements, and was followed by R. L. Brackin, Liberal member for West Kent, who moved to have the offender appear for examination before the Privileges and Elections Committee. Hon. G. H. Ferguson said he had intended since last summer to press for inquiry into reported utterances of certain U.F.O. members and organization officials during the recess, and moved for their appearance before the committee.

Premier Drury heartily concurred in the suggestion to run to earth the charges of improprieties that had been sent broadcast, but could not see how the Legislature could inquire into Mr. Burnaby's remarks, in that he had stated the bribe had been offered to himself.

"I may say," he declared, "that I believe it was an utterly foundationless statement." The Premier took Hon. G. H. Ferguson to task for imputing motives to individuals in respect to the timber probe, to which the member from Grenville replied, "If the Premier is undertaking to impute any dishonorable act to me I am prepared to discuss that now or at any other time."

Mr. Ferguson's Retort.

The Premier pointed out that there had been dishonorable motives imputed to the Timber Commissioners.

"The Premier," replied Hon. Mr. Ferguson, "cannot take advantage of his position to impute to me an inaccurate statement. I have imputed political motives to the whole organization that is carrying on this investigation called the timber inquiry. I have the very best reason for doing it, because only last week the chief counsel representing the Attorney-General, Mr. Harding, admitted under oath before the Public Accounts Committee that the origin of it was political."

"I do not know whether Mr. Ashplant made the statement exactly as it is printed in the paper," said Mr. Homuth in bringing the matter to the attention of the House, "but if he did I think it is only right to uphold the dignity of this House by having him make an explanation and tell us exactly what he meant by this statement."

R. L. Brackin, Liberal member for West Kent, took up the issue, stating: "If the report appearing in this morning's paper be a true report of what Mr. Ashplant said there is a direct assertion to the effect that this company could bribe members of