

"Stop this propaganda against Hydro," declared the Labor member with vigor. He was interrupted by the Premier demanding retraction.

"There is no propaganda against Hydro," said Hon. Mr. Drury, "has not been, and never will be."

**Let the House Decide.**

Mr. Dewart—I think that is a matter that lies in the judgment of the House, and not with the Premier.

Mr. MacBride contrasted the Government's refusal of a committee to consider Chippawa matters two and a half years ago with its ready acceptance at this date of Mr. Hay's suggestion for a committee of investigation.

"The Premier says there is no propaganda," he went on. "Why did the Government give recognition to two gentlemen, Mr. Elson and Mr. Hawkes, who came up here and said that they wanted to represent the municipalities that were not interested in Hydro? Why is Mr. Hawkes going down to Welland and conducting the most vicious personal attack on Sir Adam Beck? It is not a criticism of Hydro or Chippawa or radials. It is a personal and bitter attack on Sir Adam Beck."

**Not Directing Hawkes and Elson.**

Premier Drury—The Government is not responsible for the action of these gentlemen the honorable member is referring to.

Mr. MacBride—Well, I find in the Public Accounts the Government paid him quite a considerable sum for his activity.

Premier Drury—We spent over \$300,000 of the Province's money in order that the advocates of Hydro-radials should make their side known. There are two sides.

Mr. MacBride characterized the Premier's reply as an attempt to mislead. The Premier appealed to the Speaker for retraction, and the member for Brantford promptly withdrew, adding:

"But after your Sutherland Com-

mission was appointed, and after legal advice had been provided for Hawkes and Elson and those supposed to be associated with them—because I have never found just who were associated with them—I'd like to know the municipalities, or a half a dozen of them, that they really did represent. Nobody showed up at the Sutherland Commission. There was just a lawyer, paid by the Government."

**That Oakville Speech.**

He referred to Premier Drury's Oakville speech, wherein Hon. Mr. Drury was reported to have said that the Sutherland Commission was tied up and could not proceed, because it had not had an answer to 21 questions submitted to the Hydro.

"If the Sutherland Commission was capable," he said, "if the legal advisers and the technical advisers and the engineers were capable, and if the Hydro engineers are incapable, how in the name of common sense could the whole works get tied up and have to depend on the Hydro for answers to any twenty-one questions?"

"If that is not propaganda, I do not know what propaganda is. The propaganda has been going on for two years, and what I would like to find out is this: The Government of this Province paid Messrs. Hawkes and Elson. It is on the Public Accounts. They were represented as acting for the municipalities not in the Hydro Association. Now I think we ought to know what municipalities they represented. I am of the opinion that you will find them representing and acting for and conducting a propaganda for the very interests the member for Victoria (Mr. Watson) told of Sir Adam Beck having to fight with his back to the wall many years ago.

"There is something sinister in the Hydro attitude of the Government. I have been of the opinion that the Prime Minister was sincere. I hope to retain that opinion. But you are listening to propaganda, whether consciously or unconsciously, and the proof of that fact is to be found in some of your admissions."

**Somebody Supplying Propaganda.**

Referring to Mr. Watson's new Hydro statistics placed before the House the day previous, Mr. MacBride took that instance as a proof of propaganda. "Somebody," he said, "is supplying a lot of propaganda. I am convinced that, so far as Hydro-radials and Hydro are concerned, propaganda has been going on for two and a half years. I am satisfied that the plan is this: Create enough doubt, create enough suspicion, make an attack first on the radials, and when that fails make an attack on the excessive cost of Chippawa, and if that doesn't succeed go up to Nipigon, and if that doesn't succeed go somewhere else—keep attacking; keep investigating, and finally we will get the people to believe something."

**Brantford Probe Again.**

Before Mr. MacBride sat down the Brantford police investigation was again projected into discussion, and the cross-floor question and cross-question between the member for Brantford and Hon. Mr. Raney repeated. To support his earlier contention that he had not asked for an investigation, which had been denied by the Attorney-General, the Labor member yesterday produced his telegram asking that "a probe be instituted at once into the Spence whiskey case now proceeding," and that a Provincial officer be sent up to look into the matter.

Asked by the Attorney-General if that wording did not bear out his contention of the other day, Mr. MacBride replied most emphatically in the negative. Only a mind "saturated with suspicion," he said, could have read into his request for inquiry into a single case then proceeding a demand for the kind of investigation that was now being conducted.

## INTRODUCES BILL TO AID APPLE MEN

### Hon. Mr. Doherty's Act Would Assist Building of Packing Plants

Hon. Manning Doherty introduced into the Legislature yesterday a bill to aid in packing and grading of fruit. He explained that the intent of the bill was that the Government would make a grant of 25 per cent., under certain conditions, toward the building of central packing plants, where they are being erected by co-operative packers and co-operative producers of fruit. Any co-operative organization with 10 members, and with bearing orchards of 100 acres, would be eligible for the grant. In answer to Hon. Mr. Ferguson, he said that privately-owned plants would not come in under the scheme. Any person in the section in which the grading station was built would have the right to bring in fruit.

### QUERY ON LIBEL SUIT.

A. C. Lewis, Conservative member for Northeast Toronto in the Legislature, is making inquiry of the Government as to whether any of its members have been subpoenaed as witnesses in the libel suit of Backus vs. The Evening Telegram, and if so, what members? "Have the members so subpoenaed refused to appear, and if so, for what reason?"