

had come to criticize the Drury Government for its failure to bring down legislation on behalf of the farmer population.

The U.F.O. member did not take much stock in the financial arguments of Opposition critics concerning the proper accounting of Provincial funds and the deficits they attributed to the Provincial Treasurer under proper accounting. He asked how, when one Conservative member estimated a deficit at \$700,000 and another at \$3,000,000, U.F.O. members were to be expected to believe in their sincerity.

#### Only Over-confidence.

Mr. Stringer went on to approve the Government's efforts in the enforcement of the O.T.A., declared the people had confidence in Attorney-General Raney, and, concerning Hydro, said that although an investigation was undoubtedly the desire of the people, he did not anticipate that anything more serious than over-confidence would be brought out against the men at the head of Hydro affairs.

Mr. Swayze spoke very briefly, commenting he had been "talked at" so much in the present session that he realized the necessity of brevity. He thought a great deal of the time spent in discussion had been wasted, and instanced the afternoon's discussion on the Blondin matter as a typical case in point.

The Niagara Falls member vigorously defended the record of the Drury Government, adding, at the same time, that he had not bothered to look into the Public Accounts at all. He read from an evening newspaper, which endorsed the Drury Government, and said that only two papers in the whole Province had given the Administration its due meed of praise. On unemployment matters, Mr. Swayze said, the Government had done as much as could be expected of it.

#### Must Stabilize Currency.

Labor and industrial conditions throughout the world, Mr. Swayze thought, would never wholly right themselves until there was a return to the standard value of money in the various countries.

Concerning the Nickel Commission of a few years ago, Mr. Swayze said that, although it had cost \$85,000, he failed to see where the Government had derived one dollar of benefit.

Mr. Swayze concluded with an expression of hope that all the members would be as brief as he had been, so that members could return to their homes "some time before July 1."

## OLD ISSUES ENTER DEBATE

### Quebec Senator Fails to Gain Admission to Ontario Bar

#### HOUSE DIVIDES, 57 TO 21

By a vote of 57 to 21 the Legislature yesterday refused to send back a report to the Private Bills Committee for reconsideration of Bill No. 27, to authorize the Law Society of Upper Canada to admit Senator Pierre Edouard Blondin to practice as a barrister and solicitor. The vote followed a discussion which lasted practically all the afternoon. The Conservatives were solidly for reconsideration, the Liberals as solidly against it. Government members voted for the acceptance of the report from the committee as it stood, the only bolters being Hon. Manning Doherty, J. W. Widdifield, North Ontario; W. Montgomery, Northumberland East, and M. C. Fox, South Essex.

#### Warm Committee Debate.

The debate on the amendment to refer back the report, which amendment was moved by H. P. Hill, Conservative member for West Ottawa, was a sequel to a warm discussion that had taken place in the Private Bills Committee in the morning when Senator Blondin's bill was defeated. Senator Blondin was formerly Postmaster-General and Secretary of State in the Borden and Union Governments, and is now a member of the Senate. Mr. Hill, in introducing his amendment, made a warm attack on the opponents of the bill before the Private Bills Committee and maintained that it had been the views of Senator Blondin on conscription and his supposed speech in former years of "shooting holes in the British flag" that had brought

about the opposition to Senator Blondin's petition. He singled out Gustave Evanturel, Liberal member for Prescott, as leading the opposition to the bill before the Private Bills Committee because of the conscription issue, which charge Mr. Evanturel denied.

The debate went far afield during the afternoon. Old political ghosts walked again and old bitter topics were resurrected. The election tactics of 1911, the Conservative "wave the flag" campaign, were criticized by Liberal speakers, and there was considerable talk about Mr. Blondin's "shooting holes in the flag" speech, which Mr. Hill said Senator Blondin denied. He read Senator Blondin's denials from the Hansard report of Senate debates.

A strange feature of the debate was the warm support of the idea of the "bonne entente" by Conservative members, who argued that it would be taken as an affront by Quebec if Senator Blondin's petition was refused.

"I am glad to see my friends in the northwest corner of the House showing a belated zeal in this direction," observed the Premier, sarcastically, when he spoke urging that the findings of the committee should be upheld. Hon. Messrs. Drury, Raney and Ferguson all expressed regret that the debate had taken any political turn.

#### Members Demand Taking Vote.

Hon. Howard Ferguson, Conservative Leader, though he voted for the amendment, suggested that Mr. Hill withdraw it, and Mr. Hill offered to do so, but several members objected, and asked for a vote. The Attorney-General, during the course of the debate, read a letter from the Secretary of the Law Society of Upper Canada, saying that the Chairman of the Legal Educational Committee had instructed him to inform the Attorney-General that the Law Society was not offering any opposition to the passing of the bill admitting Senator Blondin to practice. This letter was dated April 19, but did not reach Mr. Raney until yesterday afternoon, and too late to be presented to the Private Bills Committee when it met in the morning.

Mr. Hill described the defeat of the bill before the Private Bills Committee as "stupid, mean, underhand, silly and cowardly." This brought explanations from Mr. Evanturel and J. W. Curry, Southeast Toronto, that they had opposed the bill because they thought Senator Blondin had not the qualifications required from other applicants. The defeat that was given the application of a similar nature by Sidney Tannenbaum a few weeks ago was taken as a precedent. Mr. Curry maintained that there was no politics in his decision, nor had lobbying affected it.

R. L. Brackin, West Kent, held that all should be treated alike in these applications and that no man should be favored simply because he was well known.

H. H. Dewart, Southwest Toronto, said that if Mr. Blondin qualified in Quebec and produced his certificate, he would be admitted in Ontario. There seemed to be some misunderstanding as to what Senator Blondin was in Quebec. The bill said a notary, and lay members did not know whether that meant a notary public or a solicitor. Mr. Dewart explained that a notary in Quebec was merely a custodian of documents.