

In the afternoon the commissioner announced that he had gone over all the documents carefully, and had found a large number of them which manifestly had nothing to do with the case. There were many, however, which he was satisfied were pertinent to the inquiry, and there was one on which he was in doubt.

Mr. Spence again raised his objection to their being admitted, saying the matter was a very important one for telegraph companies, and he was, therefore, obliged to ask for a stated case.

The commissioner agreed not to make public the documents until Mr. Spence and Mr. Laidlaw had had an opportunity to make application to the Appellate Division in regard to the stated case.

Left for Fort Frances.

The commission and some of the legal gentlemen left last night for Fort Frances, where the inquiry will be resumed on Monday morning.

Mr. Laidlaw, on behalf of The Evening Telegram, stated at the opening of yesterday's proceedings that Waldron's assertion at a previous hearing that John R. Robinson was on his way to Japan was without foundation, whereupon the commissioner said he assumed the reference of Mr. Waldron to be largely jocular.

Mr. Laidlaw asked that in fairness he should be allowed to read some telegrams from Mr. Robinson.

Mr. Waldron, however, objected to the introduction of evidence, except

in the regular way, and the commissioner refused to admit the telegrams.

Mr. Percy Bretz, City Editor of The Telegram, gave evidence as to handling some of Mr. Sabiston's copy. He was unable to throw much further light on what had become of the Porter despatch.

C. W. Knowles, an editorial writer of The Telegram, also gave evidence, and stated that he had advised against the publication of one of the articles which intimated that Huston had business dealings with Backus.

DOPED LIQUOR WEAKENED MEN

Gen. Elliott Tells How Bootleggers' Poisons Ruined Detectives

Bad liquor, "horrible stuff," as former Commissioner-General Elliott described it, was in some measure accountable for the frequent falls from grace of operators assisting the department in the enforcement of the Ontario Temperance Act, according to the Commissioner's statement before the Public Accounts Committee of the Legislature yesterday morning. General Elliott and Inspector of Prisons W. W. Dunlop occupied the whole morning session, lasting from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The ex-Commissioner was unable, in reply to the questions of T. H. Lennox, K.C., to discuss the various instances of bribery and other offenses that have been brought out before the committee, but confined himself principally to administrative matters, departmental policies and so forth. He was unacquainted personally, he said, with the specific cases which have been mentioned. He relied almost exclusively upon the good faith and experience of his inspectors in the matter of appointments.

The former Commissioner told the committee, as is set out in his annual report, that the chief difficulty of O.T.A. enforcement was to get the decent, reliable work that was necessary to get convictions. "Decent men," he said, "apparently became tainted. This, I should judge, was the result of having to go into these low dives and drink poisonous liquor. They committed offenses which they would not have done under other conditions."

New Regulations.

General Elliott told of the new regulations which necessitate an applicant for a position producing three references and signing an affidavit to the effect that he had never been convicted of a criminal offense. Hon. G. Howard Ferguson rather scorned the affidavit idea, implying that any crook would sign an affidavit as to his unsullied reputation for honesty.

Concerning the case of former Operator H. H. McCutcheon, which has been dealt with exhaustively by the committee, the Commissioner said he did not know at the time of his employment of the matters relating to him that came out in committee, and said he relied on Mr. Hammond's recommendation.

He was unable to discuss in detail the Lloyd Gerdon affair, or the record of Stella Bailey, or Mrs. Collins, all of whom have been mentioned in evidence. Again, he said that had he personally been acquainted with facts as brought out at the investigation, he would not have permitted their activities on behalf of the department. In reply to a question by Sam Clarke, however, the General said that it would be impossible to enforce the act without men to go to these places for the information and evidence.

After General Elliott, Inspector W. W. Dunlop went on, and was subjected to lengthy examination as to the reason and the necessity and the object of all his questions of McCutcheon when he was brought up from the jail to the Inspector's office and his statement taken verbatim. Mr. Dunlop steadfastly maintained that McCutcheon was privileged to leave the jail in the daytime and he was entitled to

know if he were adhering to regulations and to his contract with the authorities.

At one time the Attorney-General arose and determinedly announced his intention to put a motion to the committee cutting short Mr. Dunlop's examination on a point that Mr. Raney maintained was not relevant. Mr. Ferguson mentioned "gag," and Mr. Lennox heatedly protested, whereupon Mr. Raney said, in apparent disgust, "All right, go on for a month then."

Before the committee started evidence, taking Captain Collinson, who had been previously mentioned in evidence, asked that he be given the right to be heard in view of the fact that his name had been published broadcast. He remained all through the sitting for that purpose, but the time of the committee was occupied to the full limit with other matters. The Attorney-General and committee members agreed, however, that it was only just he should be heard later.