

tively."

Hon. G. H. Ferguson: "The honorable member should not get up in this House and say that a statement is inaccurate unless he is prepared to substantiate his own statement. Apparently, he is just making a bald contradiction without attempting to support his own view in any sense. He has made no comparisons, and given no basis for his statement."

Mr. Watson declined "to go back one inch" on his statement which, on the contrary, he repeated. He went further and said Mr. Raney had got up in the House and asked Mr. Hogarth if he meant that Backus had got \$25,000,000 worth of timber for \$50,000, but Mr. Hogarth had declined to answer.

Mr. Ferguson, on a question of privilege, declared that he had immediately asked Mr. Raney if the rate for dues had not been increased to everyone in the Province, and whether that would make any difference to Backus.

Mr. Watson denied that the member for Port Arthur had said anything about dues.

Mr. Hogarth, who was not in the House when Mr. Watson made his statement, entered at this juncture, and, at the request of the member for Port Arthur, the substance was repeated. Mr. Hogarth adhered to his formerly expressed views. "You said nothing about dues," remarked Mr. Watson.

Mr. Ferguson rose to a point of order, claiming that any statement made by a member should be accepted. (Mr. Raney smiled). "There are no rules to the contrary," added the Conservative leader, "except in the Attorney-General's Department."

The Speaker ruled that one member must accept the statement of another.

Mr. Watson returned to the attack, asking Mr. Hogarth if he had said Backus had got \$25,000,000 worth of timber for \$50,000. "I did not say that," quickly rejoined Mr. Hogarth. "I said Backus received \$25,000,000 worth for \$50,000 and dues."

"Well, I must take the honorable member's statement," said Mr. Watson. "It is immaterial to me whether you accept it or not," was Mr. Hogarth's parting shot.

In Defence of Drury.

Mr. Watson went on to commend Captain Thompson for directing attention to the conditions existing in some of the public institutions. He then had some scathing criticism of the Portsmouth Penitentiary, claiming that nothing was done there towards winning men back to honorable society. Turning to the Hydro, he said that many public men were being charged with scheming to destroy public ownership, Premier Drury being among them. "If that were true," he added, "Drury should not only no longer be Premier, but he should be in jail." Considerable laughter followed, in the midst of which one member remarked, "Surely not in Kingston jail." He expressed his belief in Premier Drury, and was proceeding to refer to the high expenditure of the Hydro Commission when Mr. W. F. Nickle asked: "Where was Colonel Carmichael at that time?"

"I don't know," meekly replied Mr. Watson. "Let him answer for himself."

"He never has done so," retorted Mr. Nickle.

"I presume he had something to do with it," admitted Mr. Watson.

"I support the O.T.A.," said Mr. Watson, "and shall do so until something better is proposed and endorsed by the people." He admitted that the O.T.A. had resulted in the manufacture of "moonshine," and added to the party drinking habit. "Any reference to the last night party in the Legislature?" queried Mr. W. E. N. Sinclair. "I was not there," was Mr. Watson's answer amid laughter. He believed that the benefits accruing from the Act's operation far outweighed the evils developed, and thought "that a relentless, unmerciful pursuit of a bone-dry ideal in Ontario is not necessary."

J. W. Curry's Views.

Mr. J. W. Curry, K.C., (Liberal, South-East Toronto), commenced his address in rather abstract vein by discussing ideals of citizenship, extolling in this connection those Canadians who, throughout the world, were rendering the broadest service in politics and science. Liberalism,

he held, was the embodiment in a creed of high ideals, and it was a political faith which required no "broadening out."

Touching upon the railway question, Mr. Curry expressed himself as an optimistic supporter of public ownership. He believed that Canada should take pride in putting upon a paying basis the roads which inefficient private directors had brought to bankruptcy.

Turning then to Provincial matters, he complained slightly because the Liberals and Conservatives had sown the legislative wheat which the present Government was reaping. "It has come up in tares," commented Hon. Mr. Ferguson, amidst laughter. Mr. Curry spoke of the U.F.O. platform, stating that the Government was entitled to credit for the sections which it had fulfilled, but that it must accept criticism for the portions of its program, which it had shirked. Broadening out, he reminded the Premier, was not an original element in the U.F.O. plans, and he recalled the refusal which had been given to the Liberal proposal for co-operation made when the Government was entering upon office.

Mr. Curry undertook an exhaustive review of the temperance issue, backing up the O.T.A. and defending its enforcement. He held that the O.T.A. had made for real temperance and, so far as the curtailment of personal liberty was concerned, he believed that a certain amount of restriction upon conduct was not undesirable.

Mr. Curry wound up by pleading for better relations between capital and labor, by urging that the best possible educational facilities be provided by the Province for its future citizens, and by mildly attacking the Government for its failure to face redistribution. His own plan in this latter matter was to reduce the number of members to 80, which, he believed, would result in a more efficient House, and which could be accomplished by joining together some of the ridings which were more sparsely populated.

Halcrow Scores Government.

Mr. Halcrow scored the Government for failure to carry out pre-election pledges. "They were going to do away with Government House," he said, "and taxation was going to be almost entirely removed." He also claimed that the Drury administration could not point to a thing done in any shape or form to advance public ownership, and gave the Whitney Government credit for laying the good foundations of much that had been accomplished on progressive lines in the Province. On the temperance issue, Mr. Halcrow urged that the rights of the large minority should be considered, so that people who wanted a few bottles of whiskey or beer a month should be able to get them. He concluded by moving an amendment to the Address calling for immediate action to remove the inequalities of voting existing in urban and agricultural districts in Ontario; also asking that no other public business be proceeded with until the necessary action had been taken to that end.

Hon. Mr. Raney moved the adjournment of the debate. The House then adjourned until 3 o'clock this afternoon.

Asks How Government Spends Money It Raises

Curiosity concerning the disposition which the Government had made of the huge sums which it has obtained by loans is manifested in a question which has been placed on the Legislative order paper. The query asks what employment was made of the money raised by the loans floated on January 3rd, April 1st, October 2nd and December 19th of last year.