

accompaniment of much pounding of desks and cries of "withdraw."

Withdraws Word "Spineless."

Mr. Carmichael—You said the Premier tried to keep me silent by force. You called me spineless. I am not spineless.

The House sided with the Minister and pounded its appreciation.

Mr. Nickle finally withdrew the word "spineless," admitting that "he has got backbone."

Mr. Carmichael persisted in his demand for an apology. During the exchange the Speaker was addressed, but no ruling resulted. R. R. Hall (Liberal, Parry Sound) added more fuel to the flame by declaring that the question before the House was "an apology for an insult," but no apology was forthcoming.

Premier Drury then proceeded to the defense of his Minister. After castigation of the member for Kingston for the adroitness with which "he came very close to the rules of the House and yet did not step over them," he declared that Mr. Carmichael, in tendering his resignation last year, had acted like a man and a gentleman. The resignation was bona fide, "to satisfy the Minister's sense of honor."

Premier Takes Blame.

"I alone accept the responsibility for not accepting it," he said. The Premier had not thought at the time that anything had arisen which had questioned the ability, honor or integrity of the Minister. He was still of that view. "He is a man who will do what is right as he sees it is right. I would not for a moment think of suggesting any course which did not meet with his sense of right and justice. He's not a man of that sort. He's not a man who sails close to the rules of the House. If he's taciturn, it's a virtue that others might emulate."

Blames Government.

Wellington Hay then took the floor to declare that the Government had been at fault in not keeping a close rein on Hydro officials. The Government should not only have refused to authorize the expenditure of the money which it thought should not be spent; it should "have called the officials into its offices and told them to do the work they are paid to do. On the other hand, if Hydro officials had spent money illegally, then the Government should accept responsibility," he declared.

"If the Government had authorized the expenditure, then the Government would accept responsibility," retorted the Premier. "The Government had told the Chairman of the commission that it would not finance propaganda, and the Government representative on the commission knew nothing of what was done."

The Premier then differentiated between propaganda and education by stating that the Government favored the publication of reports at the public expense, or even the sending of an engineer to explain any scheme.

Where Line Was Drawn.

It drew the line, however, at canvassing and the setting up of a paid organization with the purpose of influencing public opinion.

As for the Gregory Commission, it had been appointed to discover the reason for such actions on the part of Hydro officials as had been discussed during the afternoon. The Government wanted to discover if these actions were the acts of a commission or "a clique of employees."

"It is only by a commission that we can find out," he continued. "Is it a clique of officials, with or without the consent of the Chairman, that is responsible? We want to know if a clique of officials has so transcended the authority of the statutes that they can do things without authority."

Mr. Dewart's View.

H. Hartley Dewart then launched out into a brief speech, during which he laid the blame for the situation which had arisen at the door of the Government itself. In 1919 the Liberals had urged the Premier to enlarge the commission, and had demanded that steps be taken which would ensure that the public would be informed as to what the commission was doing.

"Every finding of the Gregory Commission," he asserted, "but drove another nail into the Government's coffin." The Premier's failure to accept the proposals put for-

ward by the Liberals was alone responsible for the situation which now existed. If the Premier had acted as he should have done, no Gregory Commission would have been necessary. The desired information could then have been obtained from "inside."

COMMISSIONS' WORK WILL COST ONTARIO SUM OVER \$800,000

**Main Details of Timber
and Hydro Inquiry
Boards' Expenses Near
Million Mark—Commis-
sioners on First Named
Each Received \$12,000
—Profits on Government
Liquor Sales**

WHAT ACT COSTS IN ENFORCEMENT

Total expenditures of over \$800,000 upon two commissions—Hydro-radial and the Timber Commission—were reported to the Legislature last night by Attorney-General Raney in answer to a question standing on the order paper in the name of A. Goulet, Russell.

Details of Cost.

The details were submitted as follows: Total cost of the Hydro-radial Commission, payable by the Province, \$156,707; chargeable to the Hydro-electric Power Commission, \$335,123. Total cost of Timber Commission was \$170,008. Additional expenditures incurred by the two commissions were given as \$141,764. Each Commissioner in the timber investigation received \$12,000 for services, and total incidental expenses were \$4,244.

Money Made on Liquor.

Of equal interest was the Attorney-General's figures, given in response to M. M. MacBride's question, of totals of money expended and received for liquor for the dispensaries in the years 1919 to 1922, respectively. Mr. Raney's figures were as follows:

	Expended.	Received.
1919 ..	\$1,500,000 (7 mos.)	\$2,000,000
1920 ..	2,500,000	3,300,000
1921 ..	2,250,000	3,150,000
1922 ..	2,500,000 (10 mos.)	3,350,000

Cost of Enforcing Act.

Another question with O.T.A. significance was that of Mr. Lennox asking for comparative costs of enforcing the Liquor License Act in the old days and the Ontario Temperance Act in the years 1920, 1921 and 1922. While the cost of enforcing the old act rose from \$150,000 to \$176,000 in 1915 and \$254,000 in 1916, the cost of enforcing the Ontario Temperance Act in 1920, 1921 and 1922, respectively, was \$316,000, \$482,000 and \$383,500.