

Thursday, Feb. 23rd

He urged the Government Ministers to get off their coats and work to broaden the field for sales. And he wanted agricultural representatives to "forget their lukewarmness." There was difficulty in getting some agricultural representatives to talk to groups of farmers on co-operative marketing. He wanted these officials to "forget their lukewarmness."

"Hydro Before We Die."

Next he touched on Hydro development. "We on the backlines and concessions want Hydro," he declared. Rural development of this power service was going along far too slowly, he declared, and added: "We want Hydro before we die."

"Do you want a flat rate?" queried Mr. Ferguson.

"I am in favor of a rate giving the people of Ontario Hydro, and I don't care what you call it," Mr. Oliver replied.

Last session Mr. Oliver had not opposed the Government in its proposed liquor control legislation, on the ground that the people had given a mandate for such a change. The Government had promised the new law would be an improved temperance measure; that it would do away with the bootlegger; that the liquor question was to be "out of politics."

Promises Not Fulfilled.

"But now," Mr. Oliver declared yesterday, "I find that the promises have not been fulfilled." There were extensions of breweries, "excitement" in brewery stocks, an increase in liquor stores. "Farmers in my district," he stated, "got letters from brewery companies inviting them to grow more barley, so that there would be an increased demand. This may all look like temperance to some people, but not to me."

The bootlegger had not packed his grip and gone from the Province, he declared. He could take the members to South Grey and, on every hand, responsible people would say that bootlegging had increased or was at least going on.

"And," he continued, "liquor is in politics deeper than ever before." He noted that Rev. W. G. Martin (Conservative, Brantford) had been elected on the Government control policy, but didn't say much about it. Apparently he and other members believed that the Liquor Control Act was "one of the issues to be handled with kid gloves."

Manitoba Example.

Why, Mr. Oliver asked, had not the Government some organization educating the people against the use of intoxicants, as had the Manitoba Government?

Then he referred to an interview that the Prime Minister had given to the press once upon a time: a statement that he was going to retire at the end of this Legislature.

"And it would be a good time for the Premier to retire," Mr. Oliver emphasized. "It would be comparable to the retirement of Borden before the election of 1921."

It might, thought Mr. Oliver, be an opportune moment for Mr. Ferguson to withdraw, for he could "flee from the wrath to come—the wrath of the people of Ontario, who were fooled by the liquor control issue."

CHAUFFEURS LICENSES INCREASE BY 25,000

Total Net Revenue From Gasoline Tax Stated to Be \$9,383,434

OTHER QUERIES ON TIMBER

Answering questions of Opposition members in the Legislature yesterday afternoon the Government dispensed the following information:

Up to Oct. 31, 1927, 444,476 motor vehicle operators' licenses, and 64,916 chauffeur licenses were issued. In 1926 39,513 chauffeur licenses were issued, indicating that about 25,000 people deemed it more in their interest to secure this form of license than the ordinary operator's license.

The Hawk Lake Lumber Company does not own limits in the Township of Shackleton.

Three-Year Timber Cut.

The quantities of timber cut in 1925, 1926 and 1927 is reported by officials as being 38,749.87 cords pulpwood, and 24,724 feet B.M. logs and booms, and 1925, 1926 and 1927, \$38,359 was collected in dues. At the end of 1927 uncollected dues amounted to \$54,731. This amount with interest has since been paid by the licensees on the understanding that an objection by them to the Government's account will be duly considered and finally determined by the Minister of Lands and Forests.

The Government withdrew from staking the east part of the Township of Marshay, and the east part of the Township of Beulah, each containing 18 square miles more or less, the district being in the vicinity of Vermilion River.

The certificate of the Senior Judge of the Supreme Court of Ontario that the election in South Bruce was void was received by the Government on Dec. 9, 1927. The resignation of the former member for Prince Edward was dated Sept. 16, 1927. The writ for the election in Prince Edward bears the date of Sept. 30, 1927.

Sales to Backus Company.

No timber limits have been sold by the Government since 1923 to E. W. Backus personally, but there have been sales to the Fort Frances Pulp and Paper Company, namely, part of the Township of Bennet and adjoining areas, 100 square miles, 96,000 cords of pulpwood at the highest bid, viz., 67 cents, in addition to dues for spruce and \$1.37, in addition to dues on balsam. E. W. Backus, President of the Fort Frances Pulp and Paper Company, is the same party interested in the English River Limits, 3,046 square miles, acquired from the Drury Government on a cordage basis of simple dues only.

The total amount of money received from the gasoline tax was: 1924-25, revenue received, \$1,976,847.98, rebates, \$2,413.88, net revenue, \$1,974,434.10; 1925-26, revenue received, \$3,533,744.82, rebates, \$157,684.26, net revenue, \$3,376,060.56; 1926-27, revenue received, \$4,266,379.90, rebates, \$233,472.80, net revenue, \$4,032,907.77. Or a total of revenue received, \$9,777,002.70, rebates, \$393,570.94, net revenue, \$9,383,434.43.

No commission was paid by the Government, but agents were allowed to deduct for their services the following fees: 1924-25, \$40,294; 1925-26, \$71,976; 1926-27, \$107,012, or a total of \$219,284.

These items do not appear in the public accounts.

BELANGER HITS BACK AT REPORTED WORDS OF REV. W. G. MARTIN

Upholds Son's Freedom of Expression and Pronunciation in English

LACK OF STREET SLANG

Statements attributed to Rev. W. G. Martin, Conservative member of the Provincial Legislature for Brantford, mention of Aurelien Belanger, Liberal M.P.P. for Russell, and his young son brought a biting reply from Mr. Belanger in the Legislature yesterday and then the plea from Mr. Martin that one should not take newspapers too seriously.

Mr. Belanger referred to a story of Mr. Martin's speech to Ward 7 Conservatives. The member for Brantford was reported as saying: "Mr. Belanger has complained about the conditions in the schools of his county. Even Mr. Belanger's son did not do any too well in the tests taken by the inspectors, and Mr. Belanger is a member of the Legislature who speaks English and French."

"Rash Statements."

The member from Russell referred to the matter so that the people of the Province would know "what rash statements are being made." His son, said he, was at the time referred to ten years old, going on eleven. He had some two and a half to three years' schooling. The first two years were devoted purely to conversational work in English. It was no wonder, then, that in the written test of a boy of ten or eleven in the third year there might be some imperfections.

"But," said Mr. Belanger, "I challenge the honorable member from Brantford to examine my boy in this building on any subject on which it is usual to converse with a boy of twelve, and he will find a freedom of expression, a pronunciation just as good as that of a boy of the same age from an English school." Moreover, said he, in his boy's conversation there would be a lack of street slang which was apt to creep into the language of the pupil in an English school.

"A Better Training."

"I am not," Mr. Belanger declared, "responsible for my son's tuition in English, but I am responsible for bringing him up to appreciate and practice honorable and gentlemanly speech and conduct. And if the member for Brantford is to be judged by his deliveries in and out of this House in 1927 and this year, let me say that my son, 12 years of age, in his manners and in his appreciation of what is gentlemanly and honorable has received in his home a better training than the honorable member for Brantford is ever susceptible of acquiring even in the long space of time to elapse before he reaches his avowed goal of becoming Minister of Education."

From the Opposition benches came thunderous support of Mr. Belanger's remarks. Then an expectant hush. Mr. Martin rose. He "wasn't sorry," he said, that the matter came up, for it showed "once again" that one shouldn't take newspapers "too seriously" or "back their interpretations." He looked on Mr. Belanger, so he said, as one of the most eloquent members in the House.

In his address to the Ward 7 Tories he had made mention of Mr. Belanger's son, but, so he explained to the House, "there was really nothing of a personal nature" in his remarks.