## **ROWELL ATTACKED GOVERNMENT ON TACK COMB INE PROSECUTION**

There Was No Justification F or Dropping Case, He Said-Attorney-General Replied There Was No Evidence of Guilt-Cochrane Liquor Case Aired-Business Day in

## House.

N. W. Rowell, leader of the oppo- government for some reason dropped sition, vigorously attacked the gov-

ent in the legislature yesterday cause the charges against members

of the tack combine in 1905 had been

It. "How about the grocers' combine?" asked Sir James Whitney. "Tm coming to that," answered Mr. Rowell. "But here is a case which went to a judge and jury and my hon. friend doesn't allow it to be tried. He was the judge and jury combined. He gave the benefit of the doubt in favor of the combine. I see the hon. premier smiles—" dropped by the attorney-general after

accurate the charges against members of the tack combine in 1905 had been dropped by the attorney-general atters a police magistrate had committed them for trial and the grand jury had returned two true bills. The Liberal leader believed that there was no justified. He was the judge and jury and my hon friend doesn't allow it to be particularly vigilant to protect to be particularly vigilant to protect combines. Mr. Rowell and protect on the set of the house for the return of the set of the house for the return of the set of the house for the return of the set of the house for the return of the set o

ting all the documents to the opposi-tion. "I do not think it is the duty of the crown to prosecute to the limit un-less satisfied of guilt." he said. "It is our duty to protect the innocent. We must be fair and just and honorable in our dealings. If the crown thinks that a case should not go to trial, it would be very wrong to prosecute to the bitter end." He then read Mr. DuVernet's explan-ation of why the case had been drop-ped, in which it was stated that he did not think the enhancement of 5 per cent. would warrant prosecution. "Mr. DuVernet is able and honorable and he took the responsibility." con-tinued the attorney-general. "And the grand jury, too, gaid it was a weak case. I would be ashamed of myself as attorney-general and as a man if I were to go against his advice and have men put in the dock who he says should not be there." He referred to the grocers' combine case which G. T. Blackstock, K.C.,handled for the crown. "These people were found not guilty, but if Mr. Blackstock had said that the case against them should have been withdrawn, I would have done so. I acted on the advice of these eminent counsel. It cannot be said that I ne-glected my duty. I would do the same again." **A Different Case.** Mr. Rowell then said that the case



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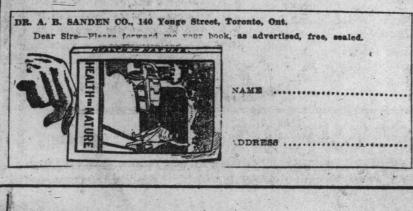
United States where trusts, monopol-tes and combines held sway while the people—the consumers—were practi-cally helpless. "There is no difference in the combination of capital in the United States and in Canada," con-tinued Mr. Rowell. "Men are human. If the laws permit them to create combines they are very likely to do it. We should have a vigorous enforce-ment of the law, of which we so pride aurselves. In fact the Canadian code in several respects might be strength-ened. It is the duty of the govern-menit to protect those who can't pro-tect themselves. "If the drivping of the charges against the fack combine were the only case I might pass it by. But this is one of many. In every dase which J. W. Curry handled and which went to a judge and jury inter was a con-viction, but in this particular one dt went to a judge and jury and thes the

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engage the most eminent lawyers to defend them. And the attorney-gen-eral should not be so solicitous in sparing them from giving testimony. The fact that true bills were found was the very best evidence that there was cause for investigation." The matter then dropped with the opposition's or-der for the return of documents being allowed." Public Service Act, Mr. Rowell said that he would move an amendment prior to the third reading to the effect that the entire civic service of the province be taken out of the hands of the government and place

## The Dempsey Case.

Mr. Sinclair, Liberal for South Ontarlo, brought up the Cochrane liquor case in which Police Magistrate Demptrouble arose in 1912, when the lawyer. Ward by name, was dismissed on the

two magistrates, found innocent by one, and guilty by the other." "What was the matter with Dempsey? If he was right, why was his judgment interfered with? If he was wrong, why was he not dismissed? There is ground for censuring Rogers if he was wrong. The man who held

the second trial was certainly over-stepping the bounds. I think the department was certainly remiss in its duty."

How It Happened. Mr. Sinclair asked an order for the eturn of all documents in connection GRAY, FADED HARR, OR BEAUTIFUL, return of all documents in connection with the case. Mr. Foy replied that all such reports to the department were confidential, but he had no objection to giving the returns of all cases of complaints. etc.

"Would the attorney-general tell un

**GOOD-BYED** 

the government and placed under a non-partisan commission. Costing Much Money. In reply to a question of Mr. Bow-man, Liberal member for North Grey, sey so prominently figured. This was Hon. Dr. Reaume stated that the the case where a lawyer was cusmiss- ernment house and grounds at Chorley

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the case where a lawyer was dismiss-ed on a charge of selling liquor ille-gally by Magistrate Dempsey, and later retried by Superintendent Joseph Rogers and fined \$400. "In 1911, Dempsey became objectionable and re-sidents of Cochrane made representa-tions to the government for his re-sting to the government for his retions to the government for his re-moval," said Mr. Sinclair. "More trouble arose in 1912, when the lawyer, Refused to Answer.

Ward by name, was dismissed on the charge by Magistrate Dempsey and fined by Magistrate Rogers, the su-perintendent of provincial police. It is the general custom that a case once tried is finished, but in this instance it was different, the man was tried by it was different, the man was tried by liott put four questions on the order

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Couldn't Compel Answer. "I decline to be bound by the prece-dent which was the fault of the then members of the treasury bench," said Sir James. "The only common sense way is a motion for the return of all documents. of all documents. As it is I do not propose to answer this question. If it is put the correct way I will." Mr. Elliott then asked for the sneaker's million

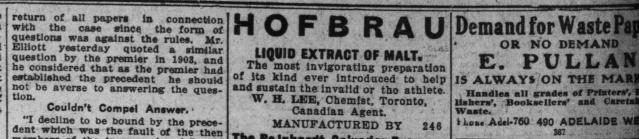
speaker's ruling. "Just suppose," said Sir James. "Just suppose that I am wrong, how would my honorable friend or the

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World guarantees to the amount paid by ader who finds after

ture \$280,000 would be expended. The estimated cost of furnishing the house had not been made. <u>Refused to Answer.</u> Sir James Whitney told J. C. Elliott, Liberal for West Middlesex, in empha-tic terms that he would have to adhere to parliamentary procedure before he would learn details in connection with "that Elk Lake telegram." Mr. El-liott put four questions on the order paper the other day for information regarding telegrams sent or received by the government prior to the last election with respect to the building of the Elk Lake branch of the T. and N. O. Railway. He was told by the premier that he would have to ask for an order for the that he would have teriology be added to the college for an order for the riculum, and that members of the



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W. McDonald of Centre Bruce has given notice of introducing a bill to amend the Ontario Election Act to the effect that, when the voters' lists are under revision, names of persons 21 years of age immediately prior to an election, be added. Tax All the Land.

Tax All the Land. H. Munro, Liberal for Glengarry, will move an amendment to the As-sessment Act providing that no pro-perty held by or in trust for the T. and N. O. Railway Commission shall be exempt from taxation, but that the same shall be charged similar to all other railways. By a bill to amend the Statute Labor Act, Mr. Anderson of Bruce aims at having the forfeit paid by rural taxpayers in lieu of labor to be increased from \$1.00 to \$1.50 per day. Mr. Rowell has given notice of moving an amendment to an act for raising money on credit of the con-solidation fund of Ontario, that the power be taken from the government and piaced in jurisdiction of the of at The Ontario Medical Institut

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