

PROSECUTION FOR SEDITION.

There were several cases of sedition successfully prosecuted at the Red Deer assizes which have just closed. Action was, as it had to be, taken through the attorney general's department, the provincial government being charged with the administration of the law. What The Journal would like to know is why that department could not have prosecuted in the case of the German paper, which was the subject of discussion at the first session of the legislature following the outbreak of war. At that time the whole responsibility was put up to Ottawa. There is no indication that in the Red Deer cases the provincial government waited for Ottawa instructions before it took action.

They have also a bearing on the Québec situation. Why, if it is so desirable to have Bourassa and Lavergne prosecuted, does not the Liberal government of that province institute such prosecution? That is its privilege and its duty if they are guilty, as everyone believes, of sedition. Anything which Ottawa does in matters like this has to be done through the provincial authorities. Why should not the latter act on their own initiative in Québec, as they did at Red Deer?