

EVENTS FORESHADOWED.

Opposition Preparing for Future Action.

SOME QUESTIONS ASKED.

Messrs. Britton, Noxon, Preston and Conmee Concerned.

Sudbury Wants a Mining Lands Office— Belleville Deputation Urges the Establishment of an Assay Office.

Legislative Chamber, Feb. 17.

Though the sitting of the Legislature today was brief, it was not without interest, for it foreshadowed some coming events of the session. But for the interrogations of the Government concerning the actions of certain public officials, and of a member of the House, the fighting ground of the Opposition would have remained in that obscurity which has enshrouded it since the dropping one by one of the platforms on which it appealed to the people three years ago. Librarian Preston, Mr. B. M. Britton, M.P., Mr. James Noxon, and Mr. James Conmee, M.P.P., are apparently to receive a considerable share of the Opposition's attention during the session, as they have been honored with first place upon the order paper.

MINING LAND OFFICE.

More than ordinarily important was the petition presented by Mr. Loughrin from Mayor Cochrane and 183 residents of Sudbury and the vicinity. It was represented that the northern portion of the District of Nipissing and Eastern Algoma is well known to be rich in minerals of different kinds. Several discoveries have been made by prospectors and others, and already valuable mines are being developed in those districts with profit and advantage to their owners. The people of Sudbury are of the opinion that a large number of prospectors will be looking after minerals hereafter with better methods than those employed in the past, as they have by experience and attendance at the Mining School sessions held in Sudbury gained a more thorough knowledge of the country and its formation. In order to facilitate the work of the prospectors and to enable them to make an intelligent exploration of the country, it is a matter of importance to them to know promptly what lands are already sold or leased, as well as to know where lands are for sale and where they are not. The petition asks for the establishment of a mining land office at Sudbury, where persons interested in mining development can obtain all the information necessary. The petition is indorsed by the Board of Trade of Sudbury and the Township of McKim.

PRAYERS OF PETITIONERS.

Among other petitions presented were these:—

Mr. McLaren—From Hastings County Council, for legislation authorizing County Councils to grant a reward for the apprehension of a horse-thief; for legislation to remove disqualification from members of Municipal Councils; to restore the principle of election by the majority, or if the minority principle must be maintained that it be done by giving three members to each County Council division and by allowing each elector to vote for two candidates only.

Mr. Pattullo—From the Oxford County Council, in reference to toll-roads; also for an amendment to the law compelling the appointment of at least one duly qualified and registered accountant for each municipality.

Mr. Blezard—From the Peterboro' County Council, for legislation compelling cities to provide proper market shelters.

Mr. Cleland—From Grey County Council