

ONTARIO FISHERIES.

The Bill Passed Through
Committee.

A PROTEST FROM OTTAWA.

Severe Criticism of Past
Administration.

THE GOVERNMENT'S POSITION.

Partisan Officials Are Not Re-
quired.

**The Services of Existing Ontario Officials
Will be Utilized Where Possible—
Economy the Watchword.**

Parliament Buildings, Aug. 17.

The bill relating to the fisheries was passed through Committee of the Whole House to-day. There was practically no discussion on the bill, but an interesting debate was caused by a question by Mr. Powell, one of the members for Ottawa, regarding the intentions of the Government with respect to taking over the officials of the Dominion Fisheries Department by the Provincial Government. The administration of the department by the Dominion Government in past years was

severely criticized, and the Attorney-General was emphatic in his declaration that the manipulation of the department for party interests will be put a stop to, and that there is no room for officials who have been guilty in the past in the Provincial service.

The House went into committee and passed the resolution of the Attorney-General, authorizing the appointment of the necessary officers for the administration of the Fisheries Department.

The Fisheries Bill.

The House went into committee on the bill relating to Provincial fisheries. Upon section 3, which provides for the appointment of a deputy commissioner and such other officers and clerks as may be necessary for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this act, Mr. Hoyle (North Ontario) said he desired to draw attention to the very large scope which the clause affords. There is, he asserted, a general complaint that the officials in the Province of Ontario are exceedingly numerous, and he proposed that a few words be added to this section in order to somewhat circumscribe the number of new officers that might be created under this subsection. He therefore moved that the following words be added: "Game wardens and such other officers whose duties are connected therewith shall so far as practicable be selected to carry out the provisions of this act."

Dominion Officials.

Mr. C. B. Powell (Ottawa) said he wished to ask a question of the Attorney-General, and before doing so he wanted to explain some of his reasons for doing so. The question he wished to ask is, What civil service employees in connection with the Marine and Fisheries Department at Ottawa are to be retained in the service of the Ontario Government, and whether they will continue to reside at Ottawa, as they are now doing? He noticed by the Ottawa papers that the civil servants were somewhat excited regarding the rumor through the departments there that some of the employees there would be removed from Ottawa to Toronto, or would be removed altogether. Now, he wanted to say as a representative of Ottawa, the second largest city in the Province, and which is rapidly becoming the first, that he rather objected to any of their citizens being transferred to Toronto or any other place, and while he did not know just what the intentions of the Attorney-General are in regard to these proposed changes, he thought it in the interests of his constituents before this bill passed to be fully informed as to what people in the Fisheries Department at Ottawa will be affected. There is at Ottawa a fish hatchery, and he sincerely trusted that the employees there would not be interfered with, nor, indeed, any of the employees of the fisheries, because they all have their homes in Ottawa, and the citizens of that city regard the civil servants as their very best citi-