

Mr. E. A. Macdonald spoke in favor of the bill. He stated that the petition leading up to the bill and signed by himself and Messrs. G. R. Wrigley and C. W. Urquhart was only a formal one, but that he represented the desire of 11,000 voters of the city. The Chairman of the committee, Hon. Mr. Gibson, raised the point as to whether three ratepayers had any right to petition, seeing that the matter was a subject of agreement between the city and the company. A desolatory discussion followed, but the majority of the committee were calling out "question," "question," and the question was put with the result stated.

New Judicial District.

Hon. Mr. Hardy's bill creating a judicial district in Manitoulin removes a great deal of inconvenience and materially lessens the expense of the administration of justice to the people of that district. At present the residents of Manitoulin in order to reach the courts at Sault Ste. Marie have to travel between 200 and 300 miles, and it can be easily seen that the expense in the shape of witness fees, conveyance of prisoners, etc., amounts to a very large sum. In some civil suits the fees are so large as to eat up the amount at issue. There are 15,000 people on the islands and the adjacent coast, so that the Government are perfectly justified in taking steps to remedy the state of affairs that now exists. It has been settled that one of the Judges now at the Sault will take charge of the new district. A Sheriff and a County Attorney will have to be appointed. The other necessary local offices are already in existence in Manitoulin.

Deputations Ask Aid.

A big deputation from New Ontario waited upon the Government to ask for assistance for the Thunder Bay, Nipigon & St. Joe Railway. The present proposition is to run a line from Port Arthur to Lake Nipigon, a distance of 68 miles. Mr. James Conmee, M.P.P., introduced the deputation to Hon. Mr. Hardy and the members of the Cabinet. Among those on the deputation were the following members of the House:—Messrs. Thompson, Mutrie, Lucas, Richardson, Campbell, Barr, Petty-piece, Macnish, Tucker, Lumsden, Charlton, Bridgland, and Messrs. H. O'Hara, J. A. Proctor, Hugh Blain, Toronto; John McKellar and George Graham, Fort William; George T. Marks, F. S. Wylie, G. W. Thompson, E. Coolidge, J. J. O'Connor, Port Arthur. Mr. D. F. Burk of Port Arthur was the principal speaker for the deputation. By means of a large map he showed the nature of the country through which the railway is intended to run. The whole section, he said, was rich in mineral and lumber wealth. Samples of marble, copper, coal and iron were shown to members of the Cabinet. Hon. Mr. Hardy promised consideration of the arguments.

Another deputation asked for aid for the construction of a railway line from Golden Lake to Bancroft, a distance of between forty and fifty miles. This, they urged, would complete a direct route between Toronto and Pembroke,

and would shorten the present route by ninety-five miles. Messrs. Fox, Campbell, Lumsden and White, members of the House, were on the deputation, in addition to the following gentlemen: Mayor Murray, Sheriff Moffatt, John P. Miller, Arch. Foster, W. B. Russell, F. E. Fortin, J. G. Forgie and W. H. S. McCallum, all of Pembroke, and James Craig, Warden of Renfrew County. Hon. Mr. Hardy stated that the project seemed to be a worthy one, and the Government would give it earnest attention.