

Whitney had discussed the subject at length, but he had omitted one important thing, he had not stated what his own opinion was. Regarding the Canadian Copper Company, Mr. Pattullo declared that if that corporation were employing labor and increasing the population and industry of this country they deserved to be treated differently than as "foreigners who had gobbled up the wealth of this country." He believed the utterances of our public men would have the effect of frightening capital from here, if the language were not less extravagant. The present situation in British Columbia, where politics and mining were unfortunately mixed, to the detriment of mining, was an illustration of this.

Mr. Whitney had discussed the railway question at length, but had not made his position very clear. Mr. Pattullo believed Mr. Whitney had seen the drift of public opinion as illustrated in one manner by The Toronto World, which advised him to revise his railway policy, and was endeavoring to trim his sails to what he regarded as the breeze of the future. It ill became the gentlemen opposite, after the immense powers they had given the Canadian Pacific Railway, to criticize the railway policy of the Liberal party, which had always stood for Government control and regulation of the railways. (Hear, hear.)

In reference to Ministers and financial corporations, Mr. Pattullo declared his opinion that no evil would ever come from the connection of the Attorney-General with them. And in this connection the speaker declared his view that no difference should be made between Ministers and private members in this regard. (Hear, hear.) The statement had been made for the purpose of casting suspicion on the bona fides of the members of the Government; and it was a statement that those on the Liberal side of the House would resent.

The Corruption Cry.

The policy of the Opposition had changed from one of petty negation to a cry of corruption against the Liberal party. One of the glories of the Liberal party was that it had done something to put a stop to the corruption that formerly existed. He would refrain from recalling the many acts of corruption revealed in the Conservative party at Ottawa. The Liberal party had made charges then, and had proved them, but now the Opposition made charges against the Government which they had offered not a whit of evidence to prove. Mr. Whitney made no reference to William Smith of South Ontario, or to other Conservatives who practised corruption. In Mr. Whitney's view the Government and their supporters were all black as crows, and the Opposition all white-winged doves. (Applause.) The people of this country were sick of the cry of corruption. The Liberals were, man for man, as honest, as patriotic and as desirous of seeing political morality maintained as the gentlemen on the other side. While he would support up to the hilt any rational amendment to the election law which would put a stop to the corrup-

tion, yet he hoped the House would not rush off under the influence of the clamor and enact laws which would be a farce on the statute book. He warned the members not to go too fast. As a preventive of corruption he advised giving the people something to follow. Whenever the people were stirred by great leaders, whenever they were under the influence of strong conviction, or fighting for some great principle or policy, the boodier had not very great influence. The leader of the present Government was doing much to lift the mind of the people from temptations to corruption by offering to them a strong forward policy.

The Forward Policy.

Touching for a moment on the education policy, Mr. Pattullo said the Agricultural College was one of the very best educational institutions in Canada. He wished also to pay a compliment to the Premier for the interest he had recently shown in domestic science. The possibilities of technical education were very great, and the interest of the Government in this direction was greatly to be commended. This was a necessary part in the development of this country.

Mr. Pattullo's concluding remarks were of a character highly appreciative of the greatness of Ontario and of Canada. The position of Ontario was a most enviable one to-day. If we looked at the future of this country we could hear the tramp of coming millions. (Hear, hear.) The Premier of Ontario was hastening the time when this country would be the home not of five but of twenty millions. He had done something, he would do more, to make this the best sister of the group of sister nations which in the future would make the British Empire more glorious and more proud than it has ever been before. (Cheers.)

Mr. Miscampbell.

Mr. Miscampbell (East Simcoe) said Mr. Ross had credited Mr. Whitney with saying nothing, yet the Premier occupied nearly five hours in replying. The speaker thought the financial position of Ontario was one of the most important questions that could occupy attention, and he hoped the report of the commission of experts would settle the matter for all time. Mr. Pattullo had favored bonuses to railways, but last session he was altogether opposed to bonuses. Granting aid to railways was all very well, but there were times when they should call a halt and see where they stood. If there ever was an occasion in which he felt ashamed of the Legislature it was on the closing night of last session, when subsidies to railways were railroaded through the Legislature without satisfactory explanations. Last session the Government introduced a revenue bill in order to meet an anticipated deficit, yet in the dying hours of the same session they brought in measures involving the Province in an expenditure of one and a half millions of dollars. That was one reason why he stood up against granting railway bonuses at that time. He favored granting aid to railways which would be a benefit to the Province, but before doing so he wanted collateral security out and out.