

judice, and that in all British fairness judgment on him should be suspended until a thorough investigation had been made. The announcement of the result of the debate was greeted with applause both from the members on the floor of the House and the spectators in the crowded galleries. The day was taken up with the conclusion of the debate on the subject, and the addresses of the leaders in the evening attracted a large crowd to the galleries of the House.

#### The Orford Patent.

Hon. Mr. Davis moved the resolution of which he had given notice, protesting against the renewal by the Dominion Parliament of the letters patent granted the Orford Copper Company of New York in 1893, and now in use by that company in the State of New Jersey for refining matte of the nickel and copper ores of the Sudbury district. "It is desirable," said Mr. Davis, "that the refining of copper and nickel should be carried on in our own country. The Canadian Copper Company, whose works at Sudbury are large, and who are deserving of commendation for the enterprise they have displayed, take the position, if I understand it correctly, that they are unable to refine here, because the Orford Company—which they say they are not interested in—control the Orford patent for refining nickel. The Copper Company take the position that the Orford process is the only practicable, well-defined process which has yet been established to be a commercial success. Therefore we assume we ought to be acting in the interest of this company and others who desire to use the Orford patent in Canada in asking this House to pass the present resolution, seeking to prevent the Orford Company from continuing to monopolize patent rights which they have refrained from exercising in the past." (Applause.)

Mr. Whitney assumed that the object of passing this resolution was to prevent the Canadian Copper Company or any other concern from saying that it was impossible to refine in Ontario. That being so, he heartily concurred in it.

The resolution was then passed unanimously.

#### The Budget Debate.

Mr. Ellber (South Huron) resumed the budget debate. He pointed out that he had German blood in his veins, and was the first Conservative member to be returned for his riding. "I think there is to-day a misunderstanding as to the attitude of the German people of the Province as to the South African war," he said. "I believe I can safely say there are no better British subjects in the Province than are to be found

among the Germans. They are thrifty citizens and good citizens, and are ready to die for the flag which gives them bread and butter, and gives their children education. (Applause.) Mr. Ellber criticized the expenditure for civil government and the education policy, charged the Government with condoning corruption, and made wholesale charges of mismanagement in the administration of Provincial affairs.

#### Mr. Auld's Congratulations.

Mr. Auld (South Essex) said that he would not make the mistake that had foolishly been charged against other members on his side of the House, of rising to his feet without congratulating the Premier upon his accession to that office. The appointment of no other man to the same office would cause the same amount of congratulation in the Liberal party in this Province. In the 30 years of his public service the Premier had filled almost every office in the Government with distinguished success. Mr. Auld paid a tribute to the other members of the Government, and especially congratulated the new Minister of Crown Lands. The Government of Ontario had no great opposition to meet at the present time. Although there had been irregularities in West Elgin, these irregularities had been as fully condemned on his side of the House as on the other. The Conservatives had every opportunity to have an investigation into the charges and had not taken it. The amendment offered came at a very inopportune time. If the present commission was not wide enough to suit the wishes of the Conservatives of West Elgin let them come to the Legislature at the next session and obtain an inquiry that would result in the investigation of all the elections held in that constituency. There had been another election in West Elgin since the alleged irregularities occurred, and, with the exception of the Town of St. Thomas, the majorities of the Government candidate were larger than before. The Opposition,

however, had been invariably opposed to commissions, and the speaker mentioned a long list of commissions, including the drainage and school books, and ending with the surplus commission, all of which had been of great benefit. He believed that the surplus commission should go farther and credit the Province with the railways aided by Government grants, the charitable institutions erected by Government money, and even the Parliament buildings, as these all represented the expenditure of public money. He believed that the policy of the Government was a complete and far-reaching policy. In closing, Mr. Auld congratulated the Speaker on behalf of the French-Canadians of South Essex for the loyal address delivered by the Speaker on Monday.

#### Criticisms by Mr. Foy.

Mr. Foy (South Toronto) said that no effort had been made by the late Provincial Treasurer to point out the discrepancies between the old accounts and the accounts presented by the Financial Commission. Some explanation was