

feasible way to signify its appreciation of the valor and sacrifices of the members of the contingents, and the matter mentioned by the hon. gentleman had also been considered. The lands in New Ontario were, however, free to all persons, and to give grants of 100 or 200 acres would be no consideration. The Premier suggested that the hon. gentleman would rest satisfied at having brought the matter up, and perhaps at this session or at a later session the House would be able to see more clearly a way whereby recognition of these services could be given. The question was a difficult one to solve in a practical and useful manner.

Proposition Endorsed.

Mr. Reid (Addington) seconded the member for Cardwell's suggestion, and said that every member of the House felt a pride in the deeds of the Canadian soldiers in South Africa. They who remained at home would not like to leave themselves open to the charge of financial cowardice.

The leader of the Opposition joined with the Premier in his words of appreciation. He was glad to hear the Premier use such language and voice such sentiments. The Premier had remarked that something of the kind suggested might be done in the future. He had no doubt whatever of the Premier's intention to do this, but he doubted if in the future the Premier would have the power to carry out his intention. If the power should be taken away from the Premier he (Mr. Whitney) would see that those to whom it was given would carry out his intention. He could not understand, however, why the matter could not be taken up now by the Government, and suggested the adoption of the motion with the words, "The time has come when."

The Attorney-General said that he could not understand the request that a resolution from a member of an Opposition laying down a policy should be adopted by the Government. It was almost unheard of, and he would venture to say that the hon. gentleman would search in vain in any Canadian or British Parliament for a precedent of the Government being asked to act on a motion of a member of the Opposition. No member desired to strangle the motion or any sentiment it expressed. There was no divergence of opinion, but it was necessary to prepare a policy before bringing it before the House. Such a policy should be considered carefully, and he thought it only reasonable, in view of the assurances which had been given, that the hon. gentleman should withdraw his motion.

Mr. Duff (Simcoe) pointed out that inducements were talked of to cause the soldiers to remain in South Africa, and said that some counter-attraction should be offered in this country.

Mr. Little said that after the assurances received from the Premier he would withdraw his motion.

Renfrew Registrarship.

In reply to Mr. Matheson, the Premier stated that the Registrarship of the County of Renfrew was not vacant.

The appointment of Mr. M. McKay was not considered a permanent one. His resignation was therefore placed in the hands of the Government, to be acted upon at any time. No promise was made to appoint Mr. R. A. Campbell to the office if he would resign his seat in the Legislature.

Mr. Matheson characterized the Premier's statement as most extraordinary, and cited the Renfrew case as an instance of trafficking in public offices by the Government.

Hon. Mr. Ross said Mr. McKay was not permanently appointed to the office, but there was nothing extraordinary about that. Temporary appointments were frequently made, and Mr. McKay knew the nature of his appointment when he took it. There was nothing immoral or discreditable connected with the matter.

Mr. Whitney said it had been asserted on behalf of Mr. McKay that he did not regard his appointment as a temporary one and that his resignation was extorted from him by the Government.

Payment for School Lands.

Mr. Jamieson (South Grey) brought up the question of the amount remaining unpaid on school lands in the Province, and asked for an authoritative declaration from the Government as to the policy they intended to follow on the question. He was informed that approximately the amount remaining unpaid was about \$380,000. In some cases, where there had been neglect to pay interest, the arrears now amounted to more than three times that of the principal. Some reduction should be made by the Government in the price of these lands that would encourage the payment of the amounts outstanding.

Hon. Mr. Davis said the lands were being gradually paid for and the amount outstanding was growing less each year. Under the act allowing revaluation a number of reductions had been made, and the amounts thus reduced were being paid. That policy would continue to be carried out.

Beet Sugar Industry.

In reply to Mr. Pyne, Hon. Mr. Dryden said that various statements, verbal and otherwise, had been made to the Government in regard to the beet sugar industry, but no definite proposition had been submitted from any capitalist to establish such a manufactory.

The Provincial Finances.

The Premier informed Mr. Matheson that he would consult with the Chairman of the Finance Commission in order to ascertain whether it was necessary to bring down a supplementary statement explaining certain apparent discrepancies between their statement of the receipts and expenditures of the Province and those given in the public accounts.

Expenses of Witnesses.

Hon. J. M. Gibson informed Mr. Macdiarmid that already some advances had been made to County Attorneys in connection with the prosecution of witnesses charged with illegal acts during the recent bye-elections.