

FRIDAY; MARCH 30.

PULPWOOD LANDS.

Agreement With Spanish River
Company Discussed.

OPPOSED BY MR. WHITNEY.

Opposition Leader Moves an Amend-
ment and Divides Legislature on
a Motion to Adjourn Debate.

The Government moved to get the ratification of the Legislature yesterday to the agreement with the Spanish River Pulp Company. It was opposed by Mr. Whitney, who complained that there was not sufficient information forthcoming, although the printed agreement was before each member and the Commissioner of Crown Lands had made an exhaustive speech in explanation of it. The Opposition leader moved an amendment to the motion for ratification, declaring that pulpwood

lands should be sold by public competition, and calling for surveys in order to determine the extent of the Provincial pulpwood areas. After the debate had proceeded for some time the Premier moved its adjournment, when, strange to say, the Opposition called for the yeas and nays. On a division the motion was carried by a majority of six. Hon. Mr. Dryden was absent without a pair, which accounted for a reduction of one in the Ministerial majority. The House spent the evening in Committee of Supply.

High Schools and Public Schools.

Hon. Mr. Harcourt gave notice of two important bills last night. One of them is to amend the high schools act, and makes provision for High School Boards receiving legacies or donations for scholarships, etc. It also permits High School Boards to grant retiring allowances to teachers who have been a long time in the service. The second bill is to amend the public schools act. It will enable Public School Boards to grant retiring allowances for old teachers, and urban boards to give small sums for the purposes of a gymnasium, etc.

Industrial Schools.

The bill of the Attorney-General with reference to industrial schools provides for increasing the age within which the control of the institution may be exercised over those who are placed out, and who may, after they leave the institution, give evidence of further control and oversight.

The Great Pulp Industry.

Hon. Mr. Davis moved the ratification of the agreement between the Commissioner of Crown Lands and the Spanish River Pulp & Paper Company. In doing so, he said, they would all realize the importance of proper treatment of the raw materials of the Province so as to be of the greatest advantage to the general public. Prior to 1894 there had been no method of disposing of the pulp of our Province, except to the United States. In that year an arrangement was made with a body of American capitalists for the construction of a great mill at Sault Ste. Marie, which has resulted in the establishment of a great industry there. They had been granted permission to select an area of 50 square miles of spruce, in addition to the strips along rivers and bodies of water. The company had never, however, availed themselves of the privilege of taking the area referred to. The Government, realizing the increase in the value of pulpwood, had recently raised the impost upon it from 20 cents to 40 cents per cord, but this would not affect the Sault Company until the expiration of their eight-year agreement in 1902. There had been nearly two million dollars expended at the Sault, or nearly one and a half millions more than was contemplated under the agreement. The number of men employed there last year was 700, or nearly twice the number originally contemplated. The House had reason to con-