

Little, Lucas, Marter, Matheson, Miscampbell, Monteith, Morrison, Macdiarmid, McDonald, McLaughlin, Powell, Reid (Addington), Reid (Durham), Robson, Thompson, Tucker, Wardell, Whitney—39.

Mines Bill Carried.

On the motion for the third reading of the bill to amend the mines act, Mr. Whitney said that the measure when first introduced was crude, involved, unreasonable, and perfectly unworkable. That was shown by the fact that the measure before the House was not the same as that at first introduced. The Conservative policy was to, as far as possible, see that the raw materials of this country should be manufactured in Canada. That was evident when they put hon. gentlemen opposite on the scent of the lumber policy. They did not believe, however, in following out such a policy when it would cause damage or loss to the Province, and it must be recognized also that there was a great difference between the effect of that principle as applied to sawlogs and as applied to mines. As the bill was now framed the Opposition had to choose between imposing the condition to refine in Canada as a permanency, or adopt the roundabout way of remitting the taxes to be imposed when the manufacturing was done here.

Mr. German—Can't you throw out the proposition?

Mr. Whitney—We could, but we are not like the hon. gentleman. My hon. friend has spasms. He goes about denouncing the Government, and when they are attacked he rushes to the very front to defend them.

The bill was then read a third time and passed.

Pulpwood Bill Passed.

On the motion for third reading of Mr. Davis' bill respecting the manufacture of spruce and other pulpwood cut on the Crown domain, Mr. Whitney moved an amendment that the bill be referred back and amended by inserting a provision that such timber be sold subject to public competition.

Premier Ross pointed out that such an amendment could not be inserted when the House had already rejected the principle contained in the amendment.

The Speaker ruled the amendment out of order, and the bill was read a third time.

Pulpwood Agreements.

Hon. Mr. Davis moved the ratification of the agreement with the Nipigon Pulp, Paper and Manufacturing Co. The pulpwood in the region of the Nipigon River, he said, was so situated that at present its only market was in the United States, the nearest mill on this side being at the Sault, 250 miles away. The Government allowed no monopoly, and were at liberty to allow a dozen other mills to locate there, if there was room for them. The fishery and other interests were fully protected. He made an addition to the ratification clause providing that the company may construct a works for water powers.

Mr. Whitney objected to the lack of information regarding the pulpwood in the district. Of the four names to the agreement, Mr. Flett was a Toronto

merchant of some kind; Messrs. Weidner and Whalen were members of the first Nipigon company, whose enterprise fell through, as the Premier had said, and Mr. N. W. Rowell was always, night and day, in the service of the Government.

Mr. Conmee—Is not the hon. gentleman a member of the much-criticized St. Anthony Lumber Company?

Mr. Whitney—Yes; but only as a representative of clients.

Mr. Conmee—Well, how does the hon. gentleman know that that is not Mr. Rowell's position in this company?

Mr. Whitney, continuing his remarks, said that the effect of the water power concession would be to utterly and for all time ruin the Nipigon River as a sporting resort, where thousands of strange rs came every year. The Opposition complained that there was not a tittle of information by which they could intelligently vote on the question. He accused the Government of being carried away with enthusiasm and by men who had no standing in the community, and giving away priceless and precious domains for purposes which could not amount to anything so far as the people of this Province was concerned.

The Premier's Reply.

Mr. Ross asked what information did Mr. Whitney want.

Mr. Whitney—As to the lands.

The Premier, continuing, complained that Mr. Whitney had said the capitalists in this company were men of no standing.

Mr. Whitney indignantly denied that he had said anything of the kind.

Mr. Ross—I understood the hon. gentleman to say so, and so did every other member of the House.

Mr. Whitney appealed to the Speaker whether that was a proper way of making a retraction.

The Premier—I must be allowed to use my own judgment as to what I understood the hon. gentleman to say.

Mr. Matheson jumped up, and, thumping the desk, called on the Premier to retract.

The Speaker ruled that the Premier had offered sufficient explanation.

Mr. Ross, proceeding, said there was as much information in this agreement as there was in the other agreements for which Mr. Whitney had voted. The Opposition leader was hedging on this as he had in the case of the mines bill. The fact was that he did not want to see the Province developed. The Government were proposing to secure an industry that would expend three-quarters of a million dollars per annum, and yet Mr. Whitney would stop it. He was pursuing a reactionary policy, and the people would call him to account for it.

Mr. Matheson charged that in the case of the Sturgeon Falls concession speculators made a gain of \$500,000. They spent less than \$100,000 in development, and, the speaker understood, sold the concession for \$750,000, less the concession was put up at competition.

Mr. Conmee corrected the Opposition leader's statement that Mr. Whalen and other gentlemen had a monopoly in the cutting of pulpwood. A permit to cut had been given to any-