

body who wanted it. As to the value of this pulpwood, if it was as much as stated the Government could raise the dues to \$10 if necessary.

Mr. Miscampbell said it was a most fallacious argument to say that the Government could raise the dues on pulpwood. It was a vicious power to put in the hands of a Government. If the limits were put up at public auction they could obtain a basis upon which the dues could be equalized. None of the pulpwood areas in these agreements were delimited, and, therefore, it was no check upon the cut.

On a division the agreement was adopted by a vote of 43 to 36.

The Blanche River agreement was then carried on the same division, after Mr. Whitney had expressed the objection of the Opposition to passing measures in regard to which they had not sufficient information.

#### The Scrap Iron Assessment.

On the motion for the third reading of the assessment amendment bill, Mr. Pyne moved to amend the measure by providing that the plant and appliances of electric light, street railway, telephone and telegraph companies should be on the basis of what it would cost the owner to renew them with other material.

The Premier said he was not in favor of what was called the scrap iron assessment, and there was no time to consider what the effects of this amendment would be. The Opposition objected to bringing down important legislation in the dying hours of the session. They should practise what they preach. If the House adopted this amendment, they would do so without giving a hearing to the parties interested. The Government had already announced their intention of appointing a commission to deal with the question of assessment. That commission, he hoped, would sit during the summer, when a hearing would be given to all parties concerned. By acting hurriedly and inconsiderately, the Legislature might paralyze the industry of some large corporation and destroy an investment of millions of dollars.

#### Tender With Corporations.

Mr. Whitney agreed that corporations were as much entitled to the protection of the law as were individuals. The speaker himself had been accused of being too tender with corporations, but had never chosen to answer the charge. He did not wish to shirk the question that municipalities had the right of protection and of appeal to this Legislature. The rights of municipalities should be protected before the rights of corporations or individuals, so far as the jurisdiction of these municipalities was concerned. The Government were right in appointing a commission, but that had no bearing upon this question. What the amendment proposed was to restore to the commission the rights of which they had been deprived.

Mr. Conmee said Mr. Pyne's proposition was a monstrous one. It was to tax plant which might be worn out, as though it were new material.

Mr. Foy declared that Mr. Pyne's proposition was to assess the plant and appliances at what it would cost to

replace them. The question was not one of going concerns or taxing the franchise or brains of a corporation, but to get at an assessment on the true value of the property.

The Attorney-General pointed out that all the present law did was to

provide that the plant of these corporations should continue to be assessed as heretofore.

Mr. Marter said what they wanted was to restore the municipalities to the position they believed themselves to be in before the courts rendered judgment in the assessment question.

The House divided, and the amendment was defeated by 43 to 36. The bill was then read a third time.

#### Supplementary Revenues Bill.

On the motion for the third reading of the bill respecting the supplementary revenues of the Province, Mr. Foy moved to repeal section 6 of the revenue act, which provides that banks, street railway, electric railway and other companies paying taxes to the Government should continue to be assessed as heretofore.

Premier Ross said this was bringing up a matter which the House had already decided upon in another form. In view of the appointment of a commission to investigate the whole question of assessment, he thought it should be held in abeyance.

The amendment was declared lost on division, and the bill read a third time and passed.

#### Majority Grows to Thirteen.

On the motion for a third reading of Hon. Mr. Latchford's bill giving aid to certain railways, Mr. Whitney moved an amendment providing that the grants therein mentioned shall be made in the way of a loan.

There was some discussion as to whether this amendment should be declared lost on the same division, but when Mr. Reid (Addington) stood up and declared "I guess I'll have to vote with the Government this time," the order was given to call in the members.

The amendment was declared lost on the same division, and on a vote on the motion for the third reading it was carried by a vote of 42 to 29, Messrs. Morrison (West Hastings), Reid (Addington) and Allen (North Hastings) voting with the Government.

#### Amendment to Election Act.

On the motion for third reading of the Attorney-General's bill to amend the election act, Mr. Whitney moved amendments providing for the abolition of the numbered ballot, for the signing of ballots by voters who cannot write, in the presence of the officers of the booth; by Mr. Marter, that voters put their own ballots into the box; by Mr. Matheson, that deputy returning officers be given power to detain persons accused by candidates or agents of personation; by Mr. Pyne, giving municipalities power to use their own buildings as much as possible for polling booths in general elections. All the amendments were declared lost on division; the bill was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Hill's bill to amend the street railway act, and Mr. Richardson's bill to incorporate the Town of East To-