

DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS BEGINS.

References to the Proposed Boundary Extension.

DEPARTMENT OF MINES.

The Temiskaming Railway and Power Development.

Pleasure is Expressed at the Coming Death of the Numbered Ballot — The Debate to be Continued on Tuesday by Mr. Preston of Brant.

The speeches of Mr. W. H. Hoyle (North Ontario), the mover of the address in reply to the speech from the throne, and of the seconder, Mr. J. P. Downey (South Wellington), in the Legislature yesterday afternoon were not distinguished by any features above the ordinary level of official oratory. Both, as was to be expected, made references to the recent victory of their party, and both, who are capable of better efforts, seemed to be handicapped by their attempts to stick to the speech from the throne as their text. They were, of course, generously applauded by their own side of the House. Mr. Preston (South Brant) moved the adjournment of the debate, which will be resumed on Tuesday, and is expected to last several days. The galleries of the House were all filled by interested spectators.

The prayers were repeated by the Speaker from memory, and not read, as has been usual.

Mr. W. H. Hoyle was greeted with applause from the Government benches on rising to move the address. His first reference was a personal one to the



MR. W. H. HOYLE (N. ONTARIO),
Who moved the address.

Speaker, expressing the pleasure of his North Ontario constituents that one who came from the riding should be raised to such an honored position. He felt the distinguished honor of being the first Conservative to move the address to the throne. No traditions were broken in his selection, for on his side of the House were young men in their duties, and in a condition of

primeval bliss and innocence politically. He observed with regret that the seat was vacant which was intended for the leader of the Opposition. He and his friends hoped Mr. Ross would soon return with health and vigor to the discharge of his duties.

The General Election.

Referring to the general election, he said it was the people's victory. There had been diversity of opinion about it, and he was not surprised to hear that an honorable member had lost faith in popular majorities.

"He lost the majority, too," remarked Mr. Whitney.

Mr. Hoyle did not mind the loss of faith, but when the gentleman went on to speak of what would happen when certain parties who had joined forces were disillusionized, he would take the liberty to remark that they had been disillusionized previously to the election. The electors had been tantalized with the hope of legislation, and would demand honest, candid treatment from the parties in power. Every member on both sides of the House had been favorable to making the test of building a Government railway. If the principle of Government ownership were embodied in every railway in Canada successful results would follow, provided the political element were eliminated from the management. He congratulated the Government on the membership of the Temiskaming Commission. It was no longer a matter of controversy, nor could there be contention about the practicability of navigation by Hudson's Bay. His remarks were founded on the trade and navigation returns of the Federal House.

With regard to the promised amendments to the education act, he presumed they would remove some of the anomalies in the high school act. Every act to be amended would be amended in conformity with pledges made to the people. New methods of taxation had been suggested, but, taking Saxony as an illustration, he believed that the science of silviculture, not only the planting of trees, but the careful conservation of existing forests, would yield an ample revenue from the forest reserves while still preserving their resources. The time had arrived for the appointment of a Minister of Mines. Since the erection of the Bureau of Mines by Mr. Hardy in 1891 the importance of Ontario mines had constantly increased, examples of their wealth and prosperity being adduced by the speaker.

The Numbered Ballot.

"Thank God that the days of the numbered ballot are numbered at last," was a fervent outburst greeted with loud Government applause. It was comparatively easy for their old friends to say that the Premier in 1874 introduced the numbered ballot in conformity with the



MR. J. P. DOWNEY (S. WELLINGTON),
Who seconded the address.

British practice. It was intended for the purpose of scrutiny, and well, indeed had it performed its duties in that respect. He was surprised to see that the great Daily Globe was quite content that the numbered ballot should go now that the scrutiny was no longer needed. Since 1874 not a member of the House but felt the full force of that ballot when he went out to canvass his constituents. The speaker was himself young in politics, but many voters had told him they would give him their vote but for the numbered ballot.

It was known—or assumed—that Manitoba was to have her boundaries extended into Keewatin, and he complimented the Government on taking steps to obtain a portion of that territory. In conclusion he said the day was past when they should undervalue their great Province. He did not like the phrase new Ontario. It was as a whole that they looked for the development of the Province. No part of it could be benefited without the participation of all. Mr. Hoyle spoke for over an hour, and then almost forgot to move the resolution, in which his "most dutiful and loyal subjects begged to thank his Honor for the gracious speech" he had made.

Mr. Downey's Address.

Mr. Downey (South Wellington), who seconded the motion, echoed the congratulations extended by Mr. Hoyle to the Speaker, and the regrets at the absence of Hon. Mr. Ross. He made some jocular references to the recent political events, declaring that peace now prevailed in Ontario, after the turmoil which had distinguished the life of the late Administration. The previous speaker's references to Lord and Lady Minto were concurred in. Mr. Downey, continuing, expressed pleasure at the announcement that the County Councils act is to be repealed. No measure had ever caused such great dissatisfaction in Ontario. The foreshadowed legislation affecting the Temiskaming Railway, and the resources of Ontario in regard to the development of electrical power, were pleasing to the speaker, who criticized the late Government for having neglected to deal in a proper manner with the latter question. The new Administration was congratulated upon its promptness in taking steps to secure the extension of the Provincial boundaries to the shores of Hudson's Bay, and for its recognition of the necessity of a Department of Mines, and in this connection he referred in glowing terms to the richness of the mineral deposits of new Ontario. The Bureau of Mines, he believed, had done good work considering the limitations imposed upon it and the disadvantages under which it had labored, but the creation of a Department of Mines would be of inestimable value. One of the chief duties of such a department, with a responsible Minister at its head, would be the protection of the individual prospector, whose interests had suffered in the past. Another would be the placing of a check upon the holding of mining areas for indefinite periods by parties who neither developed them nor allowed anyone else to do so.

The Numbered Ballot.

The fact that the numbered ballot is soon to be a thing of the past was a matter of joy to Mr. Downey. The numbered ballot had been the bulwark of "the machine," but the present Government would break the shackles and the people of Ontario would be free.

On such an occasion Mr. Downey thought it was meet that some reference should be made to the recent verdict of the people. Proceeding on this line he spoke in eulogistic terms of Premier Whitney, who, he said, had labored early and late in the face of many difficulties, through days when there seemed to be no rift in the clouds, for the benefit of the Province, and had at last gained his reward. The late Government had retained power without a mandate from the people. He hoped that never would be said of the Government now in office. For his part he believed it would not, but that, on the contrary, the high expectations of the people with regard to the Admin-