

THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW ONTARIO.

Mr. C. N. Smith Urges Action by the Government.

THE SOO'S PROSPERITY.

Hon. Mr. Hanna's Instructions as to Liquor Licenses.

Inspectors and Commissioners Must Not be Actuated by Party Feelings— Water-power Development at Nia- gara Falls—Debate to Close To-day.

There were several bright addresses in the debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne during yesterday afternoon's session of the Legislature. Dr. Lewis, who resumed for the Government, has a not unpleasant conversational method of making a speech, and his remarks, like those of the other Ministerialist benchers who spoke, were free from the restraint usually noticeable in members addressing the House for the first time. The only speaker for the Opposition was Mr. Smith of Sault Ste. Marie, and his address was markedly interesting, particularly in his references to the development of new Ontario, with the needs of which he is thoroughly acquainted and whose interests he ably championed last session, and in his allusion to the prosperity of the Soo industries. His address was warmly applauded by the Opposition, and the Government members heartened their speakers in the same manner. The debate will be continued this afternoon by Mr. Pattinson (North Waterloo), and will, it is expected, be concluded before adjournment at 6 o'clock, the understanding being that Mr. Harcourt will wind up for the Opposition and that Premier Whitney will close the debate.

The following committee was appointed, on motion of the Premier and Mr. Foy, to assist the Speaker in the care of the library: Messrs. Whitney, Foy, Matheson, Pyne, Hendrie, Hanna, Lucas, Ross, Harcourt, Graham, Preston (Brant).

Dr. Lewis Resumes Debate.

Dr. Lewis (Dufferin), who resumed the debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne, was willing to admit that the Liberal Administration had for many years passed many acts which were for the benefit of the people. Of late, however, they had devoted their attention to passing acts to perpetuate their own existence, having no longer a mandate from the people. That was the beginning of the end for the late Liberal Government, and the result of the recent election had shown how the people had resented such conduct. In former years a great deal had been heard of the surplus, but so far he understood his hon. friend the Treasurer had been unable to discover any traces of it, even with the aid of a powerful microscope. There was no doubt, however, as time went on that the Treasurer would discover something, namely, a very substantial debt that had been placed on the shoulders of the people by the former Government. The expenditures recently had been rapidly advancing. To use a sporting phrase in this connection, it might be said that in Sir Oliver Mowat's time the Province was in the three minute class, but in the

regime of the Ministry recently defeated it had reached the 2.30 class.

The doctor expressed pleasure at the various items of policy mentioned in the speech from the throne, and in this connection said the temperance party knew that the promises made by the Premier and his colleagues on this question would be kept.

The Spoils System.

Continuing, he said the member from South Brant had deprecated the spoils system in Government appointments. If this Government followed the precedent of the Ottawa Government they would turn out most of the office-holders. (Opposition cries of "No, no.") He could assure the hon. gentleman that the policy of the Conservative party would be that men who had been offensive partisans, and had neglected their duties because of that, and their names were legion—(laughter)—would have to go. There was no danger to those honest civil servants who had done and were doing their duty.

The Member For the Soo.

Mr. C. N. Smith (Sault Ste. Marie) in his opening remarks said the Liberals accepted their defeat philosophically. There was no reason why they should not. After nine successive victories they could bow gracefully to the verdict of the people. While the Opposition was small in numbers it would be found to be aggressively active in the best interests of the people of the Province. He extended his congratulations to the victors. The Premier and his colleagues came into power with the public institutions of the Provinces well equipped and everything in good order, and a splendid foundation laid by the great leaders of the Liberal party upon which to continue the building of the superstructure of continued advancement and progress. Continuing, he expressed surprise at the remark, "a notorious character," Dr. Smellie had applied to one of the former members of the House from the western part of new Ontario, a gentleman who had done more than any man to bring before the people of the Dominion the wonderful resources of that country. That gentleman was now a member of the Dominion House, and perhaps Dr. Smellie's remarks were due to having been defeated by him.

Dr. Smellie—I was never defeated by Mr. Connee.

Mr. Smith said he had thought such was the case, but if it were not, then the attack was more than ever uncalled for.

Continuing, Mr. Smith urged that the Government should see to it that the former Administration's policy of opening up and developing new Ontario be vigorously followed by the new Government. This was the only thing, he thought, that would enable the Province to hold its own against Manitoba and the Northwest, whence so many of Ontario's farmers and their sons were now flocking. If these men could easily reach the fine agricultural lands of new Ontario it would aid in checking this depletion of our rural districts.

No Liquor in Construction Camps.

There would be some difficulty, he admitted, in an endeavor to carry out the proposal to introduce prohibition into the unorganized districts of new Ontario. But he urged that during the progress of the many railway works now under construction or contemplated in that region the most drastic measures should be taken to prevent liquor being sold in the construction camps. In this connection he said he would like to know if it was part of the Conservative policy that men in the liquor business who voted for Liberal candidates in the last election were to be driven out of the trade. His attention had been drawn to a statement that men in West Nipissing who were supposed to have voted Liberal had been notified that unless they sold out at once they would be refused a license at the next annual meeting of the Board of Commissioners.

Hon. Mr. Hanna said the Provincial Secretary's Department was sending out a circular to every inspector and every commissioner, expressly notifying them that no man should be granted or refused a license on account of his politics.

Mr. Smith was glad of the information, because three or four men in his