

own constituency who had voted Liberal were rather afraid the commissioners at their next meeting might deal drastically with them.

#### Minister of Mines Wanted.

Proceeding, Mr. Smith expressed pleasure at the decision to appoint a Minister of Mines. Such a Ministry was needed. There are two men on the Government side of the House," he said, "who are well fitted for the position. If it does not fall to the hon. member for Manitoulin (Mr. Gamey) or the hon. member for Algoma (Mr. Smyth), the whole of new Ontario, Conservative and Liberal, will be greatly disappointed." He hoped the Government would establish a number of registration offices in new Ontario, where prospectors or miners would have every assistance in registering and locating claims. He also believed the Minister of Mines should have control over the vast water powers of new Ontario. They might be leased, but they should be conserved for the benefit of the Province. Mr. Smith urged more liberal grants for colonization roads, and the giving of the timber and minerals on their locations to the settlers. Speaking of the Soo guarantee bill of last session, he said the results had shown the wisdom of the then Government in putting it through, and the unwisdom of the Conservatives in opposing it. The industries were now employing 4,000 men, their pay roll was \$130,000 a month, they were making 500 tons of rails and 300 tons of pig iron a day, and had orders to keep them employed night and day to the end of the year. He spoke in favor of an increase in the salaries of the Prime Minister and his colleagues, which was deserved on account of their position and work.

#### Niagara Falls Water Power.

Mr. Fraser (Welland), after the usual congratulatory references to the success of the Administration and to the Speaker on his election, referred to some of the remarks of the previous speakers. Some license inspectors in his district, he said, would lose their positions, and he thought that when an explanation was made, as would be done, there would be no opposition to this action. Proceeding, Mr. Fraser dealt at some length with the references in the speech from the throne to the water powers of the Province, and particularly with the development of power at the Falls. In and around Niagara Falls there was now being developed 465,000 horse power. There was no legislation at present providing for the use of this power to the common advantage. As the member of the constituency principally interested he would co-operate with other representatives in measures that would insure the distributing of the electrical energy so generated for the benefit of manufacturers throughout Ontario, if in turn they would assist him in building up the industries and thus promoting the prosperity of his riding.

#### Speaks of School Book Monopoly.

Dr. Nixon (Halton) treated the suggestion of the Opposition that the past be buried in a jocular spirit. He was willing to bury it deep and seal it with seven seals. The omission from the speech from the throne of any reference to the school-book monopoly was a surprise to him, and he was determined that, as far as he had anything to do with it, it would have to go. If it could not be done away with he was going to drop out of Ontario politics. In a reference to the spoils system, he said that there were no complaints about office-holders in Halton. The appointees there of the late Government were honest and capable officials. He could, however, produce a letter on the floor of the House written by the late member for

Halton, in which he said he could not appoint a Conservative to a position in the riding. He also knew of a case in which a person had been dismissed from an office worth \$100 a year because he was a Conservative.

Mr. Pattinson (North Waterloo) moved the adjournment of the debate at 5 o'clock.

#### Notices of Motion.

The following notices of motion were given:—

Mr. Harcourt—Inquiry as to what extent has provision been made in the matter of a residence or residences for women students of the University of Toronto? How many women students are now accommodated? Does the Government contemplate making provision for a further residence or residences to accommodate all such women students?

Mr. Preston (Durham)—Has the report of the Railway Taxation Commission been received by the Government? If so, when will it be presented to the Legislature?

Mr. Tucker—Of a bill to regulate the width of sleigh runners.

#### An Opposition Caucus.

At an Opposition caucus held early yesterday afternoon Messrs. Bowman (North Bruce) and Tudhope (East Simcoe) were elected chief and assistant Whips, respectively. Short addresses were delivered by Mr. Harcourt, who leads the Opposition during the absence of Mr. Ross, and a number of other members. There was a marked absence of pessimism in the addresses, and it is evident the Opposition will conduct a cheerfully aggressive fight during the session.

#### Lumbermen Ask For Safeguards.

A deputation of lumbermen from points along the Sturgeon River, headed by Mr. A. J. Young of Cache Bay, waited upon the Minister of Public Works yesterday and asked that suitable provision be made for the flotation of logs over the dam now being constructed at Sturgeon Falls by a pulp company. The Minister said the Government's agreement with the company called for such a safeguard of lumbering interests, and the matter would be attended to.

#### Fishermen Make Requests.

A deputation of commercial fishermen from Collingwood and Meaford asked the Commissioner of Public Works yesterday to take measures to ensure a stricter enforcement of the fisheries regulations on the Georgian Bay. They said the fisheries were being depleted by poachers. The deputation was introduced by the following members of the House: Messrs. Duff, West Simcoe; Galna, Parry Sound, and Thompson, Centre Simcoe, and included Capt. Clark, Thos. Drevir, David Malcolm, Jas. Pilgrim and Robert Nicholls. Consideration was promised.

#### Grants to Hospitals.

The Provincial Secretary has decided that in the future only the public hospitals of the Province shall share in the Legislative grant for such institutions, fixed during the past few years at \$110,000. In the past, for various reasons, half a dozen private hospitals have been allowed a portion of this grant.

#### The Remount Question.

The Minister of Agriculture has not yet reached a decision in regard to the establishment of a remount station in Ontario, pending a conference with Mr. Benson of St. Catharines, who is looking after the Imperial Government's interests in the matter. Hon. Mr. Monteith still holds that the matter is one properly coming within the province of the Dominion authorities, but if they do not act he hopes to be able to arrange that buyers for the Imperial authorities be readily kept in touch with people in Ontario who have horses to sell.

#### A Division Court Appointment.

Mr. Jas. A. Chapman of Port Elgin has been appointed Clerk of the Fifth Division Court of the county of Bruce, vice Robert Munro, resigned.



"The Ontario Liberal party is beaten but not dejected, vanquished but not depressed."—Mr. Richard Harcourt.