

NICKEL TRUST HOTLY ASSAILED.

Mr. McGarry Arraigns Its Policy.

COPPER CLIFF IN BONDS.

Debate on the Budget Nearing Its Close.

Legislature Will Adjourn Thursday Till May 2—Bill to Meet Temiskaming Loan Introduced—Liberal Temperance Policy Defended by Mr. Clarke.

The debate on the budget is drawing to a close, and yesterday afternoon produced nothing very new except the attack of Mr. McGarry upon the policy of the nickel trust at Copper Cliff. His speech was fluent and incisive. Mr. S. Clarke's persiflage proved amusing to the House, and he made a strong plea for the temperance policy of the late Government. Mr. R. A. Thompson moved the adjournment of the debate, which will technically close this afternoon. The Premier announced that the House would adjourn on Thursday afternoon until Tuesday, May 2. Colonel Matheson gave notice of a bill to provide for the Temiskaming Railway loan.

The following bills were read a first time:—

Mr. Kennedy—Respecting the town of Port Arthur.

Mr. Devitt—Respecting the town of Bowmanville.

Mr. Lackner—To amend the public schools act.

Mr. Downey—Respecting the Guelph Railway Company and to confirm a by-law of the City of Guelph.

Mr. Munro—Respecting the Hamilton, Ancaster & Brantford Railway Company.

Mr. Fisher—To incorporate the Ontario Telephone Company.

Mr. McCowan—Respecting the town of Toronto Junction.

Mr. Hoyle—Respecting the Penetanguishene & Orillia Railway Company.

Mr. Mahaffy—Respecting the town of Gravenhurst.

Mr. Crawford—Respecting Trinity Church, Toronto.

Mr. Tucker—To regulate the width of sleigh runners.

Mr. Preston (Durham)—Respecting the town of Perth.

Mr. Bradburn—Respecting the town of Peterboro'.

Mr. McGarry—To incorporate Toronto, Ottawa & French River Railway Company.

Mr. Pratt—To authorize the village of Morrisburg to acquire water and to consolidate the debt of the village.

Mr. Downey—Exemption of woodlands from taxation.

Mr. Downey—To amend the assessment act.

Mr. Lackner—To amend the municipal act.

Mr. Hodgins—To amend the municipal act.

Mr. Thompson (Centre Simcoe)—To amend the act respecting the office of Sheriff.

Mr. Hendrie—Respecting the estate of the late Hon. W. E. Sanford.

Mr. Smith—Respecting the Herman-

ia Mining Company.

Mr. Smyth—The Bruce Mines & Algoma Railway Company.

Mr. Beck—To incorporate the Young Women's Christian Association of London.

Hospitals and Asylums.

Hon. Mr. Hanna gave notice of motion to ratify orders in Council bringing the Elliott Home, Guelph, under schedule B of the Charity Aid act, and the Toronto Free Hospital for Consumptives, the Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital (North Bay), the St. Frances General Hospital (Smith's Falls), and the Midland and Penetanguishene Hospital under schedule A of the same act.

In reply to Mr. P. H. Bowyer, who drew attention to the comment that had appeared in The Chatham Daily Planet regarding the confinement of lunatics in the county jail, stated that from inquiry it was due in part, no doubt, to the overcrowding of the western asylum. He had given instructions to have the parties removed at once where they would be safe from harm or harming others.

The Budget Debate.

Mr. Sam Clarke, Northumberland, in resuming the debate on the budget, referred in a facetious vein to the Premier's choice of Ministers. There was a report about another portfolio, and in that connection he desired to say that the member for East Northumberland (Dr. Willoughby) was almost as well thought of by the Liberals of the constituency as by the Conservatives. If members opposite were happy he and his friends were contented, though it might be tedious if he had to sit in Opposition for 33 years.

The mover and seconder of the address had condemned the numbered ballot, the iniquitous ballot, as one of them had called it. But it was the same ballot that had given the Government 40 of a majority, which in previous elections they condemned. It could not be charged that the numbered ballot had prevented hon. gentlemen from crossing the floor of the House.

Mr. Ross and Temperance.

In the opinion of Mr. Clarke the local option act was the best temperance measure in Canada to-day. Hon. Geo. W. Ross had given more temperance legislation to the Province than it had been able to absorb. The people had sufficient legislation, but they did not use it. He did not think the Government would do any more for the temperance people than had been done already.

He defended the accountant methods of the late Government, and took exception to the deficit figured by the Provincial Treasurer. Any person who had his income guaranteed by the Dominion Government, he believed, would have no hesitation about reckoning it as an asset, as the late Government had considered the Dominion subsidy.

It had been objected that the pulpwood and waterpower of the Province had been too liberally disposed of, but the member for Manitoulin (Mr. Gamey) must know very well that every cord of pulpwood was a source of revenue to the Government. If he was not mistaken, the Government could increase, by an order in Council, the amount the pulpwood companies had to pay the Province at present.

Build Up Ontario.

He regretted that 8,000 young farmers had left Ontario for Manitoba and the Territories. They were not leaving Canada fortunately, but they should not be allowed to leave Ontario when only one-sixth of the Province was yet developed. Settlers could not be obtained except by choosing a good farming district and building a railway.

Mr. Clarke also discussed the civil service dismissals. He thought 5,000 was a low estimate for the number of applicants the Government had for positions. Ninety per cent. of these were politicians, and if politicians had been appointed in the last twenty years it was nothing extraordinary. No man but a coward could apply to the Gov-

ernment for a position if he were not a member of the Government party. Mr. Clarke was frequently applauded.

Mr. T. W. McGarry (South Renfrew) could not give Mr. Clarke any credit for advice he should have tendered to his party when in power. His own experience was that the men who had worked hardest in the campaign against Conservatives were men who held Government positions. They had not taken part in it because they desired, but because they were compelled to do so.

With regard to the Temiskaming Railway, he had not heard the Government state any policy, nor did he know that they had a policy, but there was no authority for saying they had adopted the Liberal policy.

Nickel Trust Methods.

He attacked the policy of the Canadian Nickel Company, which represented the nickel trust in the town of Copper Cliff. The company owned every inch of the ground on which the town was built, and had induced people to erect houses and stores there, but refused to give a title when asked. If men did not vote as the company required they were promptly dismissed. The company controlled the business of the town, and the speaker had affidavits from merchants and workmen concerning these proceedings. No municipal buildings could be erected, as the company refused to sell land for the purpose. They had, without any Magisterial authority, fined a woman \$5 because her cow grazed on their land. There was no resort to the courts, as the company was too powerful, and with the numbered ballot they forced all their employees to vote against the Conservative candidates. Prolonged applause from the Government benches greeted the conclusion of Mr. McGarry's address.

Mr. R. A. Thompson (North Wentworth) rose a few minutes before adjournment and outlined a defence of the financial policy of the late Government before moving the adjournment.

Adjourn Over Easter Week.

The Premier said the Government proposed that when the House adjourned on Thursday at 6 o'clock it should stand adjourned until May 2. That would enable gentlemen interested to take part in the ceremonies attendant upon the coming visit of the Governor-General, and it would also enable the Government to get important measures into shape. He thought the adjournment would not result in undue delay in regard to the length of the session, and would, in fact, be for the benefit of the Province.

Mr. Harcourt would have preferred a shorter adjournment, though not desiring to underrate the importance of the reasons mentioned by the Premier.

After some further discussion between Mr. Harcourt and the Premier it was agreed that the budget debate should technically close this afternoon at 4 o'clock, when the estimates will be taken up.

Napanee's Request.

Mayor John Lowry and Solicitor W. S. Herrington of Napanee will head a deputation from the town that will wait on Premier Whitney to-day to urge the Government to assist in the passing of a bill authorizing the Council to pass debenture by-laws totalling \$40,000 for the purpose of establishing an electric light and power plant. At the present time the town claims to be at the mercy of an electric light company that has forced the gas company out of business, and declines supplying light unless the town loans money for the repair of its plant or buys that plant at the company's own price. Mr. Carscallen, M.P.P. for Lennox, will introduce the deputation.

The Speaker's Dinner.

The following were the invited guests at the Speaker's dinner last night in his chambers at the Parliament buildings:—Mr. Justice Maclaren, Mr. Justice MacMahon, Mr. Justice Teetzel, Mr. Justice Anglin, Mr. Justice Idington, Mr. Justice Magee, Mr. Goldwin Smith, Rev. Dr. Wild, Very Rev. V. G. McCann, Rev. J. A. Rankin, Lieut.-Col. John I. Davidson, Mr. W. H. Beatty, Mr. H. C. Hammond, Dr. W. A. Charlton, Mr. W. A. Moore, Mr. E. B. Ryckman, Dr.