

FEBRUARY 26, 1907.

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## TAX ON NATURAL GAS.

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HON. MR. COCHRANE HEARS MORE PROTESTS AGAINST IT.

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Intimates, However, That it Will be Carried Through—Says that Government Mining Properties Will Pay for Cost of the T. & N. O.

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A large deputation, representing the small owners of natural gas wells, waited on Hon. Mr. Cochrane and other members of the Government yesterday and protested against the proposed tax on natural gas. Hon. Mr. Cochrane suggested that the deputation send in a written memorial stating their views as to what the tax should be, but he plainly intimated that there would be a tax. He pointed out that the Government was putting a tax on the output of mines and on mineral lands, and expected that others than the mining men would bear their share of the cost of administering the affairs of the Province. Alluding in this connection to the building of the Temiskaming & Northern Ontario Railway, and the consequent development which had followed, he made the interesting statement that it was expected that the portion of the mining lands preserved by the Government (the Gillies limit) would give returns enough to pay the cost of the railway.

Mr. F. R. Lalor, M.P., Haldimand, introduced the deputation, and among the speakers were Messrs. W. T. Henderson, E. L. Gould of Brantford, and Louis Wigle of Kingsville.

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