

FEBRUARY 21, 1908.

LABOR MAN HAS A NIGHT TO HIMSELF.

Debate on Address Now Nearing an End.

THE FIRST NIGHT SESSION.

Mr. Clarke Says Premier Deceived the People.

On Tuesday Leaders Will Have the Field—More About the Government's Liquor Legislation — The Views of Mr. Studholme, Expressed in Speech Lasting Over Three Hours.

After railing at followers of Premier Whitney for proclaiming at such length about the honesty of the Government in the addresses on the debate, Allan S. Studholme, the labor representative from East Hamilton, occupied time in the Legislature yesterday for a little over three hours and a half. It was one of the longest speeches on record, and it covered an immense variety of topics. When reminded at 11 o'clock last night by the Provincial Treasurer that he was not even showing respect for his constituents, Mr. Studholme retorted that other members had talked about Germany and Switzerland, and any subject they pleased. Before the 6 o'clock adjournment the Labor member had been speaking for thirty-five minutes, but he said he had only got nicely started. At one stage he even threatened he could go on all night. Once he made a slight complaint about being limited to a "paltry two or three hours," saying at the same time that he could continue for fifteen or even twenty hours. Barely a quorum of the people's representatives heard the end of Mr. Studholme's speech, but whenever he appeared to conclude he was faithfully urged to proceed by a small coterie of both Liberals and Conservatives, who apparently desired to remain all night. The afternoon discussion was enliven-

ed by Samuel Clarke (West Northumberland), who attacked the liquor license policy of the Government. He even charged that Premier Whitney had deceived the people with regard to such legislation. Hon. A. G. McKay moved the adjournment of the debate at 11.15 last night, and the two leaders will be heard on Tuesday.

Analyzing the Address.

In resuming the debate on the address, Mr. Sam Clarke (West Northumberland) reminded the House that it had cost the Province quite a lot to bring his Honor's address to the Parliament, and consequently the members should not allow the valuable message to pass without discussion. Mr. Clarke took up the address almost sentence by sentence, agreeing with many of the preliminary remarks. Incidentally he gave it as his opinion that the Province should have another railway line to the Grand Trunk Pacific. He liked the clause that "very fair progress" had been made in the mining industry, and he also agreed with the work of establishing an experimental station in New Ontario. The reference to the commission respecting the care of the insane brought Mr. Clarke to mention the name of the member for East Northumberland (Hon. Dr. Willoughby). A few days ago, said Mr. Clarke, the Minister was in a very serious condition, but latest reports told of an improvement. In a kindly manner the speaker expressed the hope that Hon. Dr. Willoughby would be back in the House again.

Not Accomplished Great Things.

"I cannot see any great things the hon. gentlemen opposite have accomplished," said Mr. Clarke, turning to questions of political issue. "They have been very good collectors," he added. Mr. Clarke paid a high tribute to the member for Sault Ste. Marie (Mr. C. N. Smith), because the latter had passed a resolution at a Liberal convention years ago calling attention to the state of affairs at Sault Ste. Marie. It was the fight put up by Mr. Smith, he claimed, that had saved the "Soo" industries and the people's wages there. The member for the "Soo" was always thinking of the people's rights, he said. The preceding speaker (Mr. Lennox of North York) had mentioned the spoils system. Mr. Clarke then took up the position of North York. The member for that riding had said that the former Government had appointed seventy-seven Justices of the Peace there.

"I don't doubt that. I would not think 77 was any too many for North York. The hon. gentleman said that among the Justices appointed by the late Government there was not one Tory. I don't doubt that. Our fellows were not very broad along those lines. Still I do not see many Griffs getting jobs now." (Applause.) Mr. Clarke said it was "good politics" for the member for North York

to appoint some Liberal Justices of the Peace in the new allotment. It would appease the Liberal wrath, he said. Regarding the appointment of issuers of marriage licenses Mr. Clarke drew attention to the fact that the present Government had appointed 25 per cent. additional to the number of three years ago, and he thought this was a mark of progress of Ontario. The new members in their speeches had paid long eulogies to the Minister of Mines and the Provincial Secretary, but yet there was hardly a word for the Provincial Treasurer and Attorney-General.

What About the Power?

"I don't know when they are going to cage up Niagara power," he added. "I don't know when the harnessing of Niagara is going to begin. Diverse opinions seem to be reigning over this question. I think the people of the western part of this Province, the people of Toronto long ago expected that electric power, as the result of the action of this Government, would be turning the wheels of this Province today. Three years of time taken up, three years of the time of this Government, and nothing done yet." Continuing, he said the present Government had more sources to draw from for a surplus than the former Administration. There were now succession duties, royalties from mines, etc., which the old Government never had. The member for Manitoulin had said that the Minister of Mines had saved the Province millions in money during the last few years. He would like to ask the Provincial Treasurer where the money had gone; not where it had come from, but where it had