

were expected to do nothing but follow tamely in the lead of the Government. He said that if he had been in the House when technical education was under discussion he would have voted against the Government in favor of the Liberal leader's resolution. Mr. R. T. Shillington (Temiskaming) opposed the bill on the ground that it was too radical. He thought a commission of unbiased men should be appointed to look into the question. Later when Hon. Mr. MacKay moved in that direction Mr. Shillington voted with the Government against it.

More Information Wanted.

Mr. D. J. McDougal (East Ottawa) believed that the Province should place itself in the vanguard of progress. The appointment of a commission was a step in the right direction. Although he was in favor of taking some action to improve the conditions under which the wage-earner is working, he was not prepared to vote upon the bill with the small amount of information that was available on the matter. He suggested that Mr. Studholme turn the motion for the second reading of the bill into one for the appointment of a commission. This commission could bring in a report, not only upon labor conditions, but upon farming conditions. It could also take up the technical education matter.

The Premier Waxing Sarcastic.

Premier Whitney became very sarcastic at the expense of the independent Ottawa member, nor did he spare Mr. Studholme. Referring to the minimum wage clause, Sir James declared that under no circumstances would he ever consent to its becoming law.

"It is a clause," he declared, dramatically, "that tells the poor cripple that he shall starve."

"No, no," objected Mr. Studholme, but the Premier kept right on.

"Yes it is. It is a clause that tells him he shall starve. Think of us in this Christian country declaring that a man shall not be allowed to receive less than twenty cents an hour. In a land where every man is supposed to love his fellow-man, in a Christian land like this there should be sufficient human love in us to prevent any such legislation as that from being offered, let alone being voted upon."

The Premier explained that the Dominion Government had taken up the matter and had appointed a professor from Queen's University to investigate labor conditions. It was, therefore, not the policy of the Government to take any action until that report had been made, then it would be available for the use of the Province as well.

A Six Months' Hoist.

In moving a six months' hoist of the bill as an amendment to Mr. Studholme's motion, he declared

that if the report received by the Ottawa Government pointed in any particular direction they would be only too ready to follow in that direction, so far as it served the people.

Liberal Leader's Suggestion.

Hon. Mr. MacKay then moved as an amendment to the Premier's amendment, that a commission be appointed, which was lost on a division of 48 to 19.

All Get Full Indemnity.

Hon. Mr. Matheson moved the customary resolution providing that all members get the full sessional indemnity.

"Does that include the member who spent all his time electioneering in the old country and who was never in the House at all?" asked Mr. Studholme. "He is a wealthy man and doesn't need this money." He was told that it included every member.

"Then I oppose it," volunteered the Labor man. But, despite his opposition, the proposal carried.

Mr. D. J. McDougal (East Ottawa) submitted an amendment to the report of the Private Bills Committee. He referred to the foresight and enterprise of the former Government in making the exploitation of the great Ontario north lands possible. He graphically told the story of the discovery of valuable mineral deposits on the Gillies limit and of the declaration of Premier Whitney withdrawing the area from exploration. He quoted the Premier's utterances in the House and read editorials from the Conservative press in support of

the Government's position.

"But pull was not dead, as Hon. Mr. Cochrane said," quoth the Ottawa man. "It only slept, and it awoke more powerful than before."

Speculators in Gillies Limit.

"I challenge that statement," put in the Minister of Mines.

Continuing, Mr. McDougal related how the Province proceeded to mine and prospect the limit. In all \$104,271 of Provincial money was spent upon it. Last session he had asked the Government what it intended doing, but got no reply. Then nine days after the ending of the session the Government decided on the very policy that the Premier said should not be pursued. It sold the limit in twenty acre lots to speculators.

Sir James Whitney interrupted. "The hon. member is stating what he knows to be incorrect" he began.

"Not at all," replied Mr. McDougal. "On June 15 the Government sold a property for \$10,500 and less than four months after the purchasers disposed of it for \$330,000. I would like to know if that isn't selling to speculators?"

"Rough, Not Slippery."

Sir James Whitney declared himself astounded at the "effrontery of the Ottawa member." He was trying "in his own slippery way" to make capital.

Mr. McDougal rose to a point of order. He asked the Speaker if such a term were permissible in the House.

"I withdraw it," declared the Premier, before the Speaker could give his ruling, "and substitute the word 'rough.'"

Sir James asked the Speaker to declare Mr. McDougal's motion out of order, which that officer obediently did.

Government Policy Not Changed.

Mr. T. H. Ferguson (Grenville), however, rose to reply. He said there had been no change in Government policy. The aim from the outset had been to secure the best results for the Province. Business methods had prevailed throughout. He pointed out that the Province would secure in perpetuity ten per cent. of all the ore mined.

Mr. J. C. Elliott (West Middlesex) directed the attention of the House to the purchase by the Hydro-electric Commission of two second-hand automobiles from Chief Engineer Sothman. "In other words," he said, "you send out the engineer to purchase his own automobiles on his own recommendation." There was no evidence to show that the commission had not received good value, but the whole transaction was such as to arouse grave suspicion that there was something to cover up.

A Poor Foreigner's Mistake.

Mr. T. W. McGarry (South Renfrew), who replied, said there was no evidence to show the commission or any member thereof knew from what source the machines had been supplied. The mistake, if there was a mistake, was that of a "poor foreigner." All the evidence went to show that the commission got good value for its money.

The Premier and the "Robin."

Before the House arose Premier Whitney said that the Government had received no "round robin," and knew nothing about one. Six or eight years ago there had been a "round robin," and every member had signed it but one, who held out until he, torn between his desires and his duty, finally gave in and signed. He had not heard of one since. At this stage there were always strange stories about rumors about the indemnity. Rumor had had some members opposed to the increased indemnity and others in favor. In every case rumor was wrong. "When the Gov-

ernment is ready to deal with this matter it will take the responsibility for it, but it will not wait for the last week of the session," was the Premier's closing comment.

Sir James also took occasion to congratulate the Private Bills Committee on the fact that it had "dared to vote according to its best judgment."

"It was fortunate that the time had now come when little attention was paid to 'the clackety-clack press,'" he declared.

A Conference of Provinces.

The Premier also announced that on the 29th inst. the Governments of the Dominion and the various Provinces would meet at Ottawa with a view to arriving at some satisfactory system under which the continual differences over jurisdiction would be set at rest. Sir James expressed regret that in the despatch convening this gathering the principal and pre-dominating party had intimated that it did not expect much result from

it. He stated that the Attorney-General and the Provincial Secretary would represent Ontario.

The Premier then moved the adjournment.

Sub accounts