

plus. Well, take his own figures. He started the year with \$5,086,000 in the bank, and wound up, after taking all receipts and expenditures, with but \$3,000,000. His own statement shows a deficit of two millions. He has also told us he has a balance on current revenue. This is also not well founded."

Mr. McDougal showed that, counting \$432,000 received on the sale of timber lands and other revenue properly charged to capital account, the Provincial Treasurer, instead of a surplus of several thousand, had actually a deficit of \$500,000, an argument that provoked prolonged Liberal applause.

#### **A Deficit From Any Side.**

"No matter how you look at it he has a deficit," summed up the speaker.

The member from East Ottawa took the Government to task for its unprogressive course with regard to conserving the forest wealth of the Province. The forests if properly conserved would provide a steady revenue for all time to come. The record of the Government was one of retrogression, and in this regard Mr. McDougal referred to the action of the Administration in abolishing the Bureau of Forestry just when it was preparing to be of use.

"I think," he declared, "that the Government should appoint a Commission and thoroughly go into the matter, and adopt a proper policy. They owe that much to the people of the Province.

#### **Farmers Not Fairly Treated.**

Mr. McDougal strongly criticized the Government for the inadequate provision in the estimates for the farming industry. They should conduct an investigation into the reason the young men are leaving the farm. In northern Ontario there was just as good land as in the west, and the young men should be encouraged to go there.

The prosperity of the Province was, continued the speaker, a measure of what the whole Dominion was enjoying, and for that prosperity the Liberal Government at Ottawa was to a large extent responsible. Mr. McDougal vigorously replied to the Provincial Treasurer's criticism of the reciprocity agreement.

#### **Reciprocity Approved.**

"This," he declared, "is one of the finest things the Government has ever done for farmers of Ontario and of the Dominion. It will redound to their benefit. I know they are not special friends of the gentlemen opposite, who do not take any special interest in the good of the farming community. We know that the Conservative policy is to build up the manufacturers and to stand in with them. But the Liberals have some regard for the industry that is the foundation of the nation, and we trust and hope that the Government will keep on looking to the interests of the agricultural portion of the community. They have endeavored to secure for the farmers a market of ninety millions, and we trust that they will succeed, that the treaty will be ratified. Even if it is hard on the railways, if it benefits the man who tills the ground it is a good thing for the country. It is a good thing and statesmanlike."

#### **Pulpwood Policy a Good One.**

Mr. McDougal congratulated the Minister of Lands, Forests and Mines upon his determination to allow no change in the Provincial policy with respect to pulpwood, which compels the manufacture into paper of all pulpwood cut on Crown lands. He hoped that the Government would stick to this policy.

"If in our endeavors to build up a paper industry we allow our forests to be denuded we will be in the position of having an industry built up and no raw material to supply them, as it is in the United States at present."

"I hope," said Mr. McDougal in concluding, "that the spirit of economy may come back to the Provincial Treasurer in the ensuing twelve months, and that he will be able to come down next year, not with a deficit in both current and capital accounts, but with what is really a bona fide surplus in both accounts."