

WILLING TO SPEND IF GETTING VALUE

But Government's Immigration
Policy is Not Good,

SAYS ALLAN STUDHOLME.

"Little Nip." People May Obtain Relief by Special Legislation—Townsite Management Subjected to Criticism.

The Ontario Government's policy of immigration and colonization was subjected to a searching criticism by Mr. Allan Studholme, Labor member for East Hamilton, in last evening's session of the Legislature. Mr. Studholme declared that he would not object to the expenditure if he thought the Government was getting good value for it, but he could not see that it was when it paid \$5 a head for farm laborers who did not stay on the farm. He also found fault with the Salvation Army receiving money for bringing out workers other than farm laborers or domestic servants. He thought the Government would do better to emulate the Canadian Pacific Railway in the policy of establishing men on ready-made farms. If something better were offered to the colonist in northern Ontario than he was offered in the west a great many more would be induced to settle in Ontario. With all the resources of the north there was surely no need for unemployment in any of our cities. Settling that land would be the best thing for the Empire.

Little Nip. Bill Read.

The rules of the House were suspended during the afternoon to permit the introduction of a bill by Hon. Mr. Hanna with regard to the Little Nipissing Cobalt Silver Mining Company, Limited. It was, he explained, special legislation to meet a very extreme case, but he thought the conditions which existed warranted this course. The "Little Nip." people, he said, had discovered irregularities in the issue of their stock; some six hundred odd thousand dollars' worth of it had been distributed, not only in Canada, but in markets elsewhere, in such a way that it was impossible to distinguish authorized from unauthorized certificates. They asked legal authority in this bill to assume the outstanding irregular issue of stock. The bill was given its first and second readings, and referred to Committee of the Whole House on Monday.

Business Rushed Through.

Second reading was given to a number of Government bills, and progress in committee was made on several others as well as on several private bills.

The reports of the standing committees on public accounts, printing and agriculture were presented to the House and accepted.

The special committee on insurance reported that the proposed bill would not be proceeded with this session, but that further time would be given to the public to become acquainted with its provisions, and the committee asked to be authorized to meet during the recess. This was granted. In reply to a question by Hon. Mr. MacKay, Hon. Mr. Foy said the committee favored dividing fire insurance from other insurance in the bill, and this would be considered when they met again.

Further Estimates Passed.

In passing more of the supplementary estimates the word "conditional" was added to the words "to provide increased accommodation" opposite the item of \$5,000 as a grant to the Board of the Winter Fair.

The sum of \$367,214.02 was voted for colonization roads, distributed as follows:—North division, \$144,397.27; west, \$27,225; east, \$75,067.75; Temiskaming, \$91,750; general, \$28,774. A new vote of \$146,915 was made for public works and a revote of \$29,750.

Townsite Management.

Hon. Mr. MacKay asked whether anything were being done to obviate the criticisms that were made against the Government's policy of retaining one town lot in four in northern Ontario in new townsites. Hon. Mr. Cochrane replied that the Temiskaming & Northern Ontario Railway was doing much to build up the north country, and the Government thought the plan followed was a good one, to hold one lot in four for the people.

Inquiring About Timber. — *Rondeau Park*

Mr. Stock has given notice that on Monday he will move for an order of the House for a return of the contract between the Government of Ontario and A. E. McKillop & Sons, Limited, dated February 4, 1910, respecting timber in the Rondeau Provincial Park, and all correspondence between the said firm or any representative thereof and the Government of Ontario or any member or official thereof with respect to the said contract and the cancellation thereof or otherwise between the 1st of July, 1909, and the present date.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE MAY HOLD MEETINGS DURING RECESS TO CONSIDER MATTER.

There will be no amendment to the Ontario insurance act this session. The special committee which has been considering Col. Hugh Clark's bill decided yesterday that there was not time to properly consider the many clauses, and adopted the suggestion of Hon. J. J. Foy that permission be secured from the Legislature to hold meetings during the recess.

A number of fire insurance men were on hand again yesterday, and presented a lengthy memorandum embodying their objections to the bill. They objected strongly to the clause requiring companies to attach to the policy a copy of the application. They also protested that the clause providing that when the application is made out by an agent of the company it shall be deemed that the act of the company was unfair. At present agents fill in the statements as convenience to the assured, and the companies hold that they should not suffer where the assured makes a false statement, simply because the agent has assisted in drawing up the application.

Col. Clark pointed out that in many cases careless agents filled in applications without regard to whether the articles covered were correctly described or not, and yet the assured was held responsible in case of dispute, and his policy voided. The companies thought that so long as the name of the applicant was signed to the statement he should be held responsible for its context, but it was pointed out that this left him at the mercy of the "hurry-up" agent, who flashes a filled-in application before the assured, and gets him to sign without reading it.

A representative of a number of Canadian vessel-owners asked that provision be made to allow them to organize a mutual company to insure hulls. In Canada at present, he said, it was difficult to secure adequate insurance, both marine and fire. The act governing farm mutual companies was not wide enough to allow vesselmen to form a company among themselves, and they wanted the matter taken up. Hon. Mr. Foy informed him that his request was foreign to the matter being discussed, and advised him to seek special legislation. The committee will meet again in a month.