

are being rapidly depleted, children in many sections are compelled to leave school without suitable education, human life is being sacrificed to diseases which might be prevented, and the moral and social welfare of the people is being neglected. Ontario is rapidly losing her proud position as the foremost province.

If the seven sleepers will awake we on this side of the House will do our best to co-operate with them in carrying forward great, progressive measures for the benefit of the people, but if they will not awake we shall not cease our efforts until we awaken the country to the fact that they are asleep, and when the next election comes round the people will give them an opportunity for prolonged and uninterrupted repose.

A Settler Not a Liability.

Mr. Rowell poked fun at Sir James' argument against the Province spending money in opening up the north and creating revenue for the Dominion.

"The Government," he remarked, "looks upon a settler as a liability. We look upon a settler as an asset."

Sir James Replies.

Sir James Whitney's reply was characteristically brusque. He paid a tribute to Hon. A. G. MacKay, expressing the appreciation of himself and his colleagues of the "help he was to us at various times in Parliamentary work." He spoke of Mr. Rowell as being unable to wish him anything better than the same degree of usefulness as that of the hon. gentleman who sits at his left.

His Words Distorted.

The Prime Minister was none too cordial over Mr. Rowell's speech. He objected to the strictures of the Liberal leader that he had regarded the immigrant as a liability. This was a distortion of the facts. "Now, I tell him, that outside of all ethical considerations, that course is one which never gains a man anything in public or private life. I would never dream of such a thing as endeavoring to twist the meaning of words which an opponent of mine may have used in order that the listeners might take a meaning which my opponent never intended to have conveyed."

The relative position and relative result of the immigrant, so far as the Province was concerned, Sir James pointed out, was that every time money was paid out to bring immigrants to a new country there was a necessary expenditure for the administration of justice and maintenance of an organization. At the same time the very commodities that these people used enriched the revenue of the Dominion Government.

Should Distribute Surpluses.

"No Government has the right to keep on piling up surpluses by means of a tariff beyond the financial needs of the country." With that in mind he had asked Mr. Borden to consider whether he could not do something for the encouragement of agriculture in the Province, and for the building of highways in the new country.

Outlining the method which the Dominion would probably pursue, Sir James said the plans for new highways would likely be submitted to officers of the Federal Government, approved and the work completed. Then a formal inspection would be necessary before the money was paid.

Remedy Bilingual Wrongs.

The Prime Minister expressed amazement over Mr. Rowell's statement that during the campaign he refused to affirm or deny anything about bilingual schools. He had said more in five minutes on the public platform about bilingual schools than Mr. Rowell had in his whole lifetime. "What right have we to put anything about bilingual schools in the speech from the Throne until we have our commissioner's report?" asked Sir James. He had made a promise that if anything was found wrong in connection with bilingual schools when Dr. Merchant's report was received it would be remedied, and "that promise will be carried out."

The Boundary Settlement.

Sir James was anxious to make it plain that the Government had not been negligent in looking after the interests of Ontario in regard to the boundary settlement. He ridiculed

Mr. Rowell's proposals as either necessitating the boundary line to be drawn in the waters of Hudson Bay or to leave Manitoba without a port on that body of water, which the Government declined to consider. The proposal which had been declined at Ottawa was—let the boundary run down the middle of the Churchill River, and let the port be common to both Provinces. We endeavored to get this proposal of ours accepted," said Sir James. But apart from Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Sir Richard Cartwright, Hon. Wm. Paterson, Hon. Geo. Graham (in sepulchral tones) and William Lyon Mackenzie King from the Province of Ontario turned Ontario down. The matter of the boundary had progressed so far, Sir James added, that he expected to be able to make an announcement to the House in a few days.

Expected T. & N. O. Subsidy.

Without replying to the charge that the extension of the T. & N. O. to Elk Lake was timed to turn the tide of the election in the riding of Temiskaming in favor of the Government, Sir James justified the extension and intimated that the Government proposed to make even further extensions. He expected to secure a subsidy for the line from the Dominion Government.

Sir James promised that the question of tax reform would be delegated to a special committee of the House when the revision of the tenement act comes up.

Sir James resented the imputation that the Cabinet was not a unit on the Hydro-electric policy, and declared that the Government would pursue the scheme to its ultimate completion.

Increase Exemption.

Mr. McDiarmid (East Elgin) will introduce a bill to amend the assessment act to increase the exemption

of all earnings from \$1,200 to \$2,000, which is sought by railwaymen, who, on account of absence from home, are put to added household expense. A deputation asking for this recently waited on the Provincial Secretary.

That Farmers Bank Deposit.

Mr. Hugh Munro, Glengarry, will ask: Did the Province first make a deposit with the Farmers Bank?

What was the amount of such deposit? Was this deposit subsequently increased? If so, when was the deposit so increased? To what amount was it increased?

Was any request made to the Provincial Treasurer or any other member of the Government to increase the amount of the Government deposit? If so, when was such a request made? By whom was it made?

What amount had the Province on deposit with the Farmers Bank at the date when the bank suspended payment?

Will the Province receive any dividend from the liquidator in respect to this deposit?

Mr. Wm. Proudfoot (Centre Huron) will ask the Government if Sir William Meredith's report on workmen's compensation has been received? What legislation the Government proposes on the subject this session, and what correspondence has there been on the question?

Mr. R. J. McCormack (East Lambton) wants to know how many model schools were in existence prior to January 1, 1905; how many in 1909 and 1912, and is it the intention of the Government to restore any more model schools.

Col. T. R. Atkinson (South Norfolk) has given notice of a number of questions regarding steps the Government has taken or proposes to take to open up the clay belt.

NEW SPEAKER IN HIS ROBES



HON. W. H. HOYLE, M. P. P.