

**Sir James Whitney Will
Ask Authority to Make
Expenditure.**

**ADOPTS POLICY
OF LIBERAL PARTY**

**Glad to See Effect of Cam-
paign, Says Mr. N. W.
Rowell.**

The Liberal platform as promulgated prior to the general election: "In order that the Government may enter seriously upon the problem of the settlement and development of New Ontario we propose the creation of a Department of Immigration and Colonization to be presided over by a Minister of the Crown, who shall devote his whole time and energies to this important work. Among other matters, to the promotion of settlement, building of roads, insuring other necessary transportation facilities, providing drainage requirements, assisting pioneer settlers to secure loans to a limited extent on the security of the lands occupied by them, repayable over a term of years, and giving special assistance to pioneer schools.

Acceding to the pressure of the Opposition and the call from Northern Ontario, cognizant of the protests from the Boards of Trade in the Province and the secession movement in the northwesterly districts, Sir James Whitney announced in the Legislature yesterday afternoon that the Government would ask authority to borrow \$5,000,000 to be spent on the development and colonization of the Provincial hinterland, and the appointment of a man of experience and capacity to handle this department of the work. Sir James made his announcement after the routine proceedings of the afternoon were completed and the House was ready to adjourn. It came as a great surprise to the members of the House, and when the Prime Minister concluded his remarks he was greeted with loud Government applause.

Mr. Rowell Congratulates.

Mr. N. W. Rowell, the Liberal leader, was quick to take advantage of the situation. "I congratulate the Prime Minister," he said, "on making this announcement. The only question which arises is whether the proposals are adequate to meet the situation. I am glad to see that our campaign for New Ontario development is having effect." (Liberal cheers.)

"The hon. gentleman is peculiar," replied Sir James. "Anybody who is able to read has no doubt read what I said in my public address on this subject, and after that if it is possible for anybody to suggest that any other person, or thing, or organization is responsible for my position, I have nothing more to say."

Mr. Allan Studholme (East Hamilton) said he had been urging such a step on the Government since 1907. The Boards of Trade of Toronto and all over the Province had taken the matter up and were protesting against the inaction of the Government. "What was ridiculed in 1907 is brought forward to-day. I

am pleased he is going into the matter. The Premier can have all the credit for it he wants."

The Premier's Announcement.

In making his announcement, Sir James said:

"Before and during the general election campaign the Government drew attention to the great and obvious importance of the further opening up and development of new or northern Ontario, and alluded to the promised financial aid from the Dominion Government for immigration and colonization purposes.

"The subject, outside of the proposed Dominion aid, has been carefully considered by the Government, with the result that it has been decided to select a man of tried capacity and experience, who will report as to settlement and colonization matters, and take under his charge all matters relating to settlement and the construction of necessary roads, etc. His duty will lie outside the construction of the ordinary colonization roads.

"It will be remembered also that in my address I asked the people to say whether they would authorize further Provincial appropriations for such purposes, and the answer has been unmistakeable. The Government intends therefore to ask the House during the present session for authority to borrow a sum of money not exceeding \$5,000,000 for the purpose of colonization and development in new or rather northern Ontario, including not only the Temiskaming country, but the country in the vicinity of Sault Ste. Marie, Port Arthur and Fort William, the Rainy River district, and other localities in the northern portion of the Province."

Another Deputy Minister.

The man to be placed in charge of the work of developing the north country will not be the head of a new department of Government. It is understood that he will assume the position of a Deputy Minister in one of the existing departments. Just what the duties of the new appointee will be have not been clearly defined, but he will, it is stated, be given wide powers. He will have charge of the construction of all necessary roads in the north country other than colonization roads, which foreshadows a policy of going into the townships and opening them up before the arrival of the settler, a policy that the northerners have been persistently advocating. The partial clearing of farms for intending settlers will be a matter for his consideration.

Whether the Government has a man in mind capable of filling the part, is not known, but Mr. R. R. Gamey, member for Manitoulin, is generally accepted as the man in whose hands will be placed the work of Northern upbuilding.

While a question of such moment to the future of New Ontario was being presented to the Legislature, on Frank Cochrane, late Minister of Lands, Forests and Mines, was a quiet observer, but refrained from making any comment on this new feature of Government policy.

Ethics of Interpellations.

Sir James Whitney treated the House to a brief dissertation on the ethics of interpellating the Government. Mr. Rowell has a number of questions on the order paper concerning the interprovincial boundary, Sir James told Mr. Rowell that no information was in the hands of the Government that the matter had reached a settlement, but all the other information required would be brought down in the correspondence concerning the matter when it was before the House. Sir James pointed out where the rules of the Legislature were dissimilar with those in practice in England and for that matter in Ottawa. Certain questions regarding the proposal to transfer the Hydro-electric to a department of the Government, Sir James asked to stand until Hon. Adam Beck was in the House.

A Few More Questions.

Opposition members are still coming forward with questions on subjects, all and sundry. Mr. Richardson (South Wellington) will ask the Government what information it has of the value of farm lands in Ontario