

ery to do this work, should remain in charge. We have merely deferred putting in operation that which we will put into operation when the proper time comes—namely, the transfer of the Hydro-electric to a department of Government."

The Liberal speakers carried the war into the Government camp during the continuation of the debate.

Should Not Claim Credit.

Mr. J. C. Elliott (West Middlesex) continued the debate for the Opposition. He declared that the Government was in no way entitled to the credit for Ontario's vast heritage in the northland. Not only had greater Ontario been added to the Province under a Liberal Administration, but the Liberal party had blazed the trail into that country, and the results which followed had proved the wisdom of that course. Northern Ontario, comprising 140,000 square miles, represented, said Mr. Elliott, seventenths of the Province. There was nothing before the House to show how the \$5,000,000 grant was to be spent, but he was sure, unless an additional sum was voted, it would prove entirely inadequate.

The price of foodstuffs, Mr. Elliott went on, was so high in 1910 that the Government included a reference to the subject in the speech from the Throne of that year. "There was a balky Government at Ottawa then," said Mr. Elliott, "and the people of Ontario could not get their due."

The High Price of Food.

"Hon. gentlemen opposite—many of them—were fighting shoulder to shoulder with men who are to-day responsible for the high cost of living," he declared, amid Liberal cheers. "Is that the reason why a request is not now made to the Government at Ottawa, which will surely give ear to any appeals made by the Province of Ontario?"

It was quite competent for the Government to say that the responsibility for high food prices rested with the Federal Parliament. "But there is another Government which is responsible to the people of this Province for prosecutions against combines that are responsible to-day for the enormous cost of living. Is the Attorney-General of this Province doing his duty? Have the necessary prosecutions been continued by a Government that got fairly rested after so long wandering in the wilderness?"

One of the great interests which is suffering from the high cost of living is that of labor, remarked the member from West Middlesex, yet the Government actually turned the entire weight of its influence to defeat the hon. member for East Hamilton (Mr. Studholme), who was the only accredited representative of labor in the house.

Five times the amount was spent for colonization last year than under the late Government. Mr. Elliott pointed out, yet there were to-day less people on the land in the Province than there were ten years ago.

A Deliberate Bribe!

Mr. Elliott laid considerable emphasis on the passage in Mr. Rowell's speech last Thursday with reference to a telegram being sent to friends in the Temiskaming district intimating that the branch of the T. & N. O. Railway would be built into Elk Lake. He developed the argument that the House being dissolved, and no party in power, this was a deliberate bribe to the electorate of that constituency to elect a supporter of the Government. "A serious charge has been made against the Prime Minister," said Mr. Elliott, "and he owes it to this House to affirm or deny that he sent the telegram."

"There is nothing to deny," replied Sir James.

"Will the hon. gentleman deny he did not send the telegram?" repeated Mr. Elliott.

"No charge has been made," continued Sir James, avoiding the issue.

"This House is entitled to a denial or an affirmation," declared Mr. Elliott, "that the telegram was sent."

Sir James is Silent.

The Prime Minister was immovable. He was not prepared to make any statement in the absence of a specific charge.

A Defence of the Government.

Hon. I. B. Lucas attempted no reply to Mr. Elliott's strictures. He characterized the proceedings as savoring of a mutual admiration society. He extended to Mr. Rowell his hearty congratulations upon entering public life in this Province, and sized up the Liberal prospects in the terms: "Now we have started, the goal is clear and we will not be long in the wilderness. The resources of the Province were too great to be dealt with by the generalities put forward by hon. gentlemen opposite. Nothing had been brought forward in the debate which the Government could incorporate into its policy." He defended the delay over the completion of the revision of the statutes, and said there was no comparison between the present revision and that of former occasions. He wanted to know where the leader of the Opposition stood on the bilingual question. "Is he with the Attorney-General or is he with the Minister of Public Works?" After all the serious question before the Legislature was one of administration, and the only scandal in seven years was that of the Cobalt Lake sale, which brought over one million dollars into the Provincial Treasury, and he would be glad to see more of them.

"I would rather stutter and say frankly where I stood on these public questions," said Mr. Lucas in conclusion, "than use the eloquence which my hon. friend (Mr. Rowell) possesses and say all things to all men."

The Result of Three Visits.

Mr. T. Marshall (Monk) in his maiden speech to the House was not inclined to believe that the Government was entitled to all the satisfaction it took out of the result of the election. The Prime Minister had gone to Bowmanville to defeat Mr. Sam Clarke; to Hagersville, in the constituency represented by Mr. Chris. Kohler and then into East Hamilton against Mr. Studholme, and each of these gentlemen had come back with an increased majority. The darkest hour was before the dawn. The Liberal party, although not burdened with the responsibilities of office was in the House in the interest of good legislation, and they would go on with that work in a cheerful, hopeful manner that would bring success.

Mr. J. I. Hart (East Simcoe) charged the Liberals with trying to avoid discussing the questions which were of interest to the people of the Province. They had dodged the temperance question, and did not know where to stand on bilingual schools. They were not looking to see what was good for the Province but for what the Government had not done.

Protest Against Education Policy.

"I stand as a protest of the riding of Centre Bruce, long represented by Lieut.-Col. Hugh Clark, against the educational policy of the Government," said Mr. W. McDonald, making his bow to the Legislature. The Government had declared that the supply of teachers was adequate, yet he found in the report of the Minister of Education issued last year that more teachers were authorized by temporary certificates than ever before. "This is a system which the Minister says is adequate for the Province of Ontario?" In his own county there were as many as twenty teachers in the schools lacking any professional training, and he knew of counties where the number ran as high as forty and fifty. Mr. McDonald scored the Minister of Education for closing the model schools, and submitted that even four months' training in a Model school was preferable to taking pupils out of high schools and appointing them to teaching positions. Instead of teaching two languages in the schools, he could tell of a school in Bruce county that had been closed down because no teacher was obtainable.

A Complete Breakdown.

"There has been a complete breakdown in the educational system of the Province," he declared, to the accompaniment of cheers, "and yet the hon. member for Centre Grey boasts that the Province is responsible for the education of 700,000 children. There were so many changes in the designation of the qualification of teachers that trustees in rural schools were never sure of the standing of the person they were employing."

Continuing, Mr. McDonald criticized the Government for not increasing