

benefits of local option as it had operated in his riding. There had been a marked change since local option had been introduced and from experience in that direction he could find no warrant for supposing that the treating system would be effective in removing the evil of the liquor traffic.

"Progressive Legislation."

Mr. Albert Grigg (Algoma) said he would take second place to no man in the House as an advocate of temperance. But, he said, there had not been advanced in this Province such a progressive legislative measure as that brought forward by the Government.

Mr. Grigg said that it would take a strong Government to enforce this law, and he had every confidence in the present Government. If the bar were abolished a premium would be placed on bottle drinking.

Mr. Grigg confessed that he had not been convinced that the three-fifths clause was the best thing for the Province, but in making inquiries he found that it was favored as creating permanency.

Tribute to Sir George Ross.

Mr. Sam Clarke (West Northumberland) paid a tribute to Sir George W. Ross, who had favored prohibition while he was in power, but his policy had not been accepted by the Liberal party.

If ever there was a man of honest convictions, it was Sir George Ross.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Clarke said, had taken second place in the House yesterday to the leader of the Opposition. When the leader of the Opposition announced his policy the Prime Minister had spent all his time ever since in wondering what he was going to do. Mr. Clarke would like to have a shorthand report of the caucus of the Conservative party, at which the policy was decided on. The Prime Minister said he was going to abolish the treating system, but he had not said when he would do it.

Would Banish by Education.

Mr. W. K. McNaught said if "banish the bar" meant to take the liquor out of the hotels and put it into the dining-rooms of the houses or into illicit dives, he must be counted against it. He said his experience in Portland, Maine, was that in several hotels he, with some friends, were able to get all the spirituous liquor they wanted. He believed in banishing the bar, with all his heart, not by coercion, but by education, which would cause it to stay banished. He claimed the record of the Government in this matter was the best of any Government. He would never believe in abolition of the bar without compensation. Mr. McNaught claimed more credit himself for the amendment introduced by the Premier than the leader of the Opposition, as six years ago, immediately after his entering the House, he had introduced a bill to abolish treating, and had withdrawn it on request as being in advance of public opinion, but had been complimented by a number of persons on introducing such a bill. He believed the legislation proposed by the Government was just, was best for the country, and best for the party; it struck at the root of the evil, not the branches. The record of the previous Government, he alleged, had been one of flimflamming and gold-bricking the people on this question, while the present Government had done much for temperance advancement, and the Premier could be relied on to do what he said he would.

No Class Legislation

Mr. Allan Studholme (East Hamilton) said he was going to hold the leader of the Opposition to his promise that he would stand for the abolition of club licenses as well as bar licenses. It would be class legislation to deprive the workingman from buying a drink of beer at a bar and still permitting a member of a club to go there and have a highball. He did not think Mr. Rowell was politician enough to go out and say he did not mean that. Every member of a licensed club, he said, was becoming a partner in the liquor business, and the Government, too, he said, was becoming a partner in taking five per cent. of the bar receipts.

"AN OUTRAGE ON RIGHTS OF TORONTO RAILWAY"

WITH THIS REMARK MR. FLEMING CONSENTS TO INTERCHANGE OF TRAFFIC.

With the exception that he characterized the bill as an "outrage on the rights of the Toronto Railway Company," Mr. R. J. Fleming offered no opposition to the passing of the bill providing for an interchange of traffic on the electric railway lines, by the Railway Committee of the Legislature yesterday morning.

The bill provides that where there are in the same municipality two or more electric street railways each of the corporations shall afford the other every facility for the interchange of traffic and running rights over its lines. If the corporations are unable to agree as to terms, that matter shall be arbitrated upon by the Ontario Railway and Municipal Board. The act will come into force on proclamation by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council.

"The question is whether one railway company may hold up several municipalities or other companies," said Mr. H. L. Drayton, representing the city of Toronto. "It will prevent a municipality holding up a railway."

"So far as we are concerned," said Mr. Fleming, "there will be no opposition to the bill, except that it is an outrage on the rights of the Toronto Railway Company." It was further a complete reversal of the city's policy as practised against the radials in past years. The city has steadily refused to consent to an agreement for an interchange of traffic, which would include the radials, and now the city wanted to force an interchange with radials.

The bill was reported.

WHOLESALE CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COMMITTEE

BULK SALES ACT FOR PROTECTION AGAINST FRAUDULENT DEBTORS IS REPORTED.

Representatives of a number of Toronto wholesale firms attended the meeting of the Legal Committee of the Legislature yesterday morning to confer with the committee during the consideration of Mr. W. D. McPherson's "bulk sales act" for the protection of wholesalers from loss through fraudulent debtors.

The bill provides that retailers shall not dispose of their stock in bulk without providing a written statement of their liabilities, and securing the consent of more than fifty per cent. of the creditors. Hon. J. J. Foy, who was selected Chairman of the committee at the last meeting, presided.