

tend to elevate the standard of public morals in the Province.

Col. Atkinson (South Norfolk) recalled his own experiences with the late Provincial Treasurer as a militia officer. While Col. Matheson himself was sensitive to criticism he always did that which he thought to be best. "He had a good big heart, and had a strong feeling for his brother-man," was Col. Atkinson's tribute.

Hon. Thomas Crawford, former Speaker of the House, also added a few words of personal tribute.

Mr. S. H. Armstrong, member for Muskoka in succession to his Honor Judge Mahaffy, was introduced by Hon. W. H. Hearst and Mr. S. I. Hart (East Simcoe).

Mr. J. E. Ellis (East Ottawa) has given notice of a bill to amend the motor vehicles act to provide for a reciprocal interchange of licenses between Ontario and Quebec. Mr. Ellis explained that this bill is introduced at the instance of the Ottawa Branch of the Ontario Motor League, and has no reference whatever to the proposal to provide for an interchange of licenses with any of the States.

Debate on Address.

The debate on the address in reply to the speech from the Throne will commence this afternoon, with Mr. A. H. Musgrove (North Huron) as mover and Capt. H. A. C. Machin (Kenora) as seconder. Mr. J. C.

Elliott (West Middlesex) will lead off for the Opposition. There is every indication that the debate will be spirited and interesting. After Mr. Elliott's speech the debate will likely be adjourned until next week.

Many Questions.

The Opposition members in the Legislature have already become active inquirers. Mr. C. M. Bowman (North Bruce) will ask on Friday how much has so far been expended on the new Government House, the estimated cost of completing and furnishing, and when the place will be ready for occupancy.

A further inquiry is to be made into the conduct of Police Magistrate Dempsey at Cochrane, which formed the subject of a question last year. Mr. W. E. N. Sinclair (South Ontario) will ask for copies of all reports made by the Superintendent of Provincial Police, all complaints from any person, all prosecutions carried on before Superintendent Rogers as Provincial Magistrate, and all protests filed with the Government.

Mr. Marshall (Monk) will ask about mining royalties. He wants to know what mines are under obligation by agreement or otherwise to pay royalties to the Government or to the Timiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway Commission; what are the amounts received from this source during the past five years, and what changes have been made?

Mr. Mageau (Sturgeon Falls) will ask about the agreement with Willis K. Jackson of Buffalo; what is the extent and character of the timber on the townships affected, and what information the Government has upon this timber?

Mr. Proudfoot (Centre Huron) comes back with a request for the amount paid so far to the Statute Revision Commission for fees, meals and refreshments, and if the Commission has completed its work.

Mr. Sinclair has another question, whether the Provincial Government has made any application to the Dominion for an increased subsidy on the basis of that granted to Manitoba last year.

PROVINCIAL COMMISSION FOR NORTHERN ROADS

ENGINEERS TO GET SUGGESTIONS FROM THE UNITED STATES.

"This is the biggest proposition ever undertaken by a Government of Ontario," said Sir James Whitney to The Globe last night, in discussing the plans of the Government for the improvement of the highways of the Province, as outlined in the speech from the Throne on Tuesday.

It is understood that the Government is ready just as soon as the present session of the House concludes to go ahead and make a complete survey of the Province. In all probability a Provincial Commission will be appointed to deal with the entire matter. Engineers will be sent into the different States of the Union to investigate the systems in operation there, and a year hence a comprehensive scheme will be laid before the House.

The mention of \$5,000,000 in the speech from the Throne is just a beginning, and the Government has as yet no conception of what figures the ultimate expenditure will run into. Already \$5,000,000 is being provided for New Ontario road construction, but this is only a small part of the general scheme.

Nominally the work is expected to be under the jurisdiction of the Minister of Public Works, who will be responsible to the House for the expenditure involved.

MIDDLE ROAD PREFERRED.

Deputation Tells Minister it Would Serve Larger Community.

Hon. J. O. Reaume, Minister of Public Works, heard a deputation yesterday, protesting against the selection of the Lake Shore route for the proposed trunk road between Toronto and Hamilton. They advocated the "middle road" as a better proposition, because it was shorter and would serve a larger community en route. It was also stated that the land along the way would be more amenable to the frontage tax.

Dr. Reaume stated that the Government would not commit itself to either project until both had been investigated.