

terests was both unjust and unfair, and would result in great harm to the cause of temperance.

At the outset of his speech Mr. Rowell paid his compliments to the mover and seconder of the address. He joined in the sentiments of appreciation expressed on the return of his Royal Highness the Governor-General and the Duchess of Connaught, and wished to associate himself with all that had been said concerning the illness of Sir James Whitney. He paid a graceful tribute to the labor and patience of Dr. Pyre during the trying ordeal at the Premier's bedside in New York.

Getting Under Cover.

Mr. Rowell made reference to the so-called "anti-treating" legislation promised by the Government two years ago. Ever since the promise of such a measure was made in the House the Government had been "re-treating and getting under cover."

"Perhaps the Provincial Secretary will tell us what is the matter with that legislation—whether the Government still intends to bring it in, or whether his allies have persuaded him that it would not be a good law."

Mr. Hanna asked to whom Mr. Rowell referred as his "allies."

"The men who have been supporting him at every election, the liquor interests," was Mr. Rowell's prompt response.

Social Conditions Ignored.

Mr. Rowell deplored the omission from the speech from the Throne of reference to social conditions in the Province. He spoke of the serious depopulation of the rural districts of the Province, of the tremendous growth of the urban population, and of the conditions which had resulted in the great amount of unemployment in the cities, and in the city of Toronto in particular.

Together with a social worker, Mr. Rowell had visited ten homes in the city, where he had found deplorable conditions of poverty as a result of unemployment. The position of affairs found in each of these homes was graphically described.

Thousands Out of Work.

Between 9,000 and 10,000 men had registered at the Civic Employment Bureau, and as members of organized labor as a rule had not registered, the number would be increased to 13,000 or 14,000. Sixty per cent. of them were married, and would have on an average three children each. Accordingly, from 45,000 to 50,000 people would be affected.

The Department of the Provincial Secretary, Mr. Rowell continued, had done much in the way of prison reform that was to its credit.

Prisoners Are Better Fed.

"But if it is right to do so much as that for the man who is inside, how about the idle thousands on the outside, who to-day are less well fed, less well clothed, and less well housed than the men on the prison farm? While cordially approving of what the Government has done, it is up to the Government to say what it intends to do for the relief of these men."

Mr. Rowell then proceeded to outline what had been done for the relief of poverty and unemployment in Britain. He quoted from numerous reports, all of which went to show that any method of dealing with the question must be thoroughgoing and radical. He instanced the usefulness of the labor exchanges that had been opened in London and in different parts of Britain.

Causes of Depression.

Analyzing the causes of economic depression and consequent unemployment in Canada, Mr. Rowell thought they were: First, unemployment by mischance; second, unemployment from seasonal occupations; and finally, what he termed psychic causes. The time had come when the members of the Legislature should look into the face of the whole question and see what method could best be adopted to improve the present conditions. He did not propose to suggest the same form that was employed in England or in Germany or in other countries. Perhaps the immigration policy was at fault, but the problem was here, and had to be dealt with.

He was quite aware that the Province maintained a Bureau of Labor with free employment offices in sev-

eral cities. But the organization was entirely inadequate to meet the conditions, and they could not hope to deal with the problem through a branch of a department, where the attention of the Minister was taken up with a multitude of other duties.

Three Important Branches.

"If there are three departments of government in this Province which should be strongly officered, which should be seeking to work for the betterment of the future of this Province, they are the Department of Agriculture, dealing with the whole problem of rural conditions; the Department of Education, dealing with the education of the youth of this Province in town and country; and a department whose chief function would be a study of those serious social and industrial problems, which affect urban communities all over Ontario." (Applause.)

He was glad to say that conditions in Ontario were not so bad as in older countries. Canada had enjoyed a great and abounding prosperity, and now that the spectre of unemployment was facing the community, it was time for the Legislature to be up and doing. It was a work worthy of the representatives of the people of Ontario, and one which, if properly attended to, would enable the members to say "thank God" that they had been able to do something.

Mr. Hanna's Bantering.

Mr. Hanna started in a bantering vein. He remarked how anxious and alarmed Mr. Rowell had been in previous sessions in regard to questions that he had raised in discussing the speech from the Throne. First, there had been the matter of a Hudson Bay port; in 1913 it was the bilingual situation, and now it was industrial conditions. He thought it was strange that while Mr. Rowell had raised this alarm in the House he had been singularly silent regarding these matters during recent bye-elections.

Mr. Hanna did not conclude his address.

New Member from North.

The address of the new member from North Grey, Mr. Charles S. Cameron, who moved the adoption of the speech from the Throne, was devoid of any outstanding feature. Mr. Cameron merely recounted the several subjects referred to by the Lieutenant-Governor, commenting briefly on each. He referred with gratification to the return to Canada of his Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, and of the recovery of the health of the Duchess of Connaught.

Mr. Cameron afterwards touched lightly upon the work of each of the several departments of the Government, in the main pointing out how expenditure in each had been increased since the present Administration came into office. He dwelt at greater length upon the work of the Provincial Secretary's Department, dealing with the prison farms at Guelph and at Fort William, and intimating that they indicated a revolution in the methods of dealing with prisoners.

Mr. George S. Henry.

Mr. George S. Henry (East York) reiterated the sentiments expressed by Mr. Cameron, and paid a compliment to the administration of Hon. W. H. Hearst in the Department of Lands, Forests, and Mines. He hoped to see the day when the T. & N. O. Railway would be extended to tide-water on James Bay, and paused in his argu-