

likely to be accurate.

On the matter of social legislation Mr. Hanna said that Mr. Rowell was probably the only man in public life in the Province who would venture the remark that Ontario was behind other countries. He instanced the public health act and the housing law as advanced social legislation.

The Provincial Secretary went on to show what progress had been made in improving the conditions of those in public institutions. The prison reform program at Guelph had brought eulogistic praise from deputations sent over by President Wilson and Kaiser Wilhelm. The proposed workmen's compensation act was one of the most advanced measures found on the statute books of any country.

In conclusion Mr. Hanna eulogized the work of the Department of Education as having raised the standard of teachers, increased grants to rural schools, brought the State University out of a condition of starvation and cheapened the cost of text books. He pointed to the teaching of agriculture in the rural schools as marking a distinct development in this direction.

"I want to say this," Mr. Hanna went on. "I do not think the conditions of agriculture in Ontario have ever received greater assistance, greater encouragement, greater help from any Government in this Province than it has in recent years, and particularly is receiving to-day under the present Minister of Agriculture." (Applause.)

Not So Pure, Says Mr. Clarke.

Mr. Sam Clarke (West Northumberland) prefaced a characteristic reply to Mr. Hanna with a salvo of congratulations to the Provincial Secretary on his speech, the member for North Lanark (Hon. R. F. Preston) on his elevation to Cabinet rank, and Hon. I. B. Lucas on his succession as Provincial Treasurer.

Mr. Clarke was not inclined to agree with Mr. Cameron's (North Grey) boastings that the Whitney Government had rid the Province of electoral corruption, and ventured the suggestion that if Mr. Cameron would go over his statement of expenses in the recent North Grey campaign he would find a few hundred dollars that could not properly be classed as "legitimate expenses."

"If my hon. friend says so I will believe him," he declared, "but I do not think he will say so."

The speech from the Throne, Mr. Clarke went on, was singularly free from any mention of temperance legislation. It had formed an important part in his Honor's message on previous occasions, and he interpreted the silence now as indicating that the Government felt that nothing further could be done in license legislation. He replied to Mr. Hanna's objection to the statement that the Government was in alliance with the liquor party by suggesting that the word "partnership" might have been more properly applied, as it was evident in recent legislation that the Government had been careful not to injure the interests of the liquor people by shortening the hours of sale where it would most affect the trade. If the Government was really anxious to show its sincerity let it abolish the iniquitous three-fifths clause. If this was done, in five years 85 per cent. of the municipalities of the Province would be under local option.

Care of Unemployed.

Mr. J. Wesley Johnson (East Hastings) could see little good in the policy of the leader of the Opposition.

He declared that it was not the "duty of the Government to touch the matter at all." Toronto should be perfectly able to look after its own unemployed without calling upon outside assistance. He charged Mr. Rowell with insincerity in his temperance propaganda, and called upon him to answer for the sale of liquor in the Ontario Club, which was the "Liberal headquarters" in this city.

Partnership With Liquor Men.

Mr. Thos. Marshall (Monck), in a forcible speech, replied to the vauntings of Government supporters by declaring that progressive legislation had nearly always been initiated under Liberal auspices, whether it was carried into effect by a Conservative Government or not. It was not sufficient for the Provincial Secretary to disclaim an alliance with the liquor interests, for the fact was plain that

in local option or political contests, although the allegiance of Conservative temperance men would vary and shift from the support of the local option by-law to the support of the Conservative candidate, there was never any question as to where the liquor interests stood.

The condition of the unemployed in Ontario was infinitely more serious than the Provincial Secretary was prepared to admit. It was no answer to the strictures of the leader of the Opposition to make comparisons with conditions in Detroit and New York, neither was the advocacy of a Department of Labor new.

Mr. Hartt's Optimism.

The member for East Simcoe (Mr. Jas. I. Hartt) could not see anything in the Opposition amendment. If anything was wrong with the administration of affairs in the Province let it be pointed out. In the absence of other arguments the Opposition had fallen back upon its old stand-by, "blue ruin." He thought outside of Toronto there was little suffering through want of employment, and most of it was among that class who enjoyed seasonal work, and sent their earnings out of the Province to help those they left behind in other countries.

The Labor Member.

Mr. Allan Studholme (East Hamilton) had a lot of criticism to make of Mr. Hanna's stand in the matter of the unemployed. He accused the Government of doing nothing, and showed that in American cities, Detroit and New York, mentioned by the Provincial Secretary, something was being done officially, but the Ontario Government did not go into the problem at all. He showed that in Hamilton 1,700 had registered as unemployed, and went on to show that the condition was really acute.

Cost of Statute Revision.

On the orders of the day being called Hon. J. J. Foy called attention to an inaccuracy in a report of his reply to a question concerning the amount so far expended on the work of the Statute Revision Commission.

The amount expended is \$238,354. "This includes," said Mr. Foy, "the cost of printing to date, also the accounts of the Workmen's Compensation Commission and other amounts paid for services and salaries, which amount approximately to \$26,000."

What the further cost of printing would be the Attorney-General was not able to say. It could only be estimated, and he suggested that that part of the question be allowed to stand.