

tion myself to the member for Prescott, and I entirely concur in the observations by the honorable Attorney-General in reference to it.

#### Mr. Rowell Is Not Scared.

"I shall not take up the time of the House in discussing the remarks of the honorable member for Grenville. I do not think this is the time or the occasion in dealing with a matter of this serious import to try and gain party advantage or to indulge in mutual recriminations in connection with matters of this kind. I want to make this one statement, however: that I was not aware of the attitude of the honorable member for Prescott in connection with this question until after he came to the House, and when he did come to the House he made known his attitude to me, as I stated in the House the other day.

"Let me make this further observation: that when I introduced the resolution to the House two years ago I then stated, as will appear in my remarks as they are reported, that I knew that the introduction of this policy would have the effect of our losing the support of some who had hitherto co-operated with us. I made then, as I have made known since, perfectly frankly to the people of the Province, that I knew it meant some loss of support, but, knowing that, I did not hesitate to introduce it because I believed it was in the public interest." (Applause.)

## EXPENDITURE GROWING FAR BEYOND REASON

### Mr. Elliott's Criticism of Ontario Finance

#### SEES DEFICIT OF \$5,000,000

#### Mr. McGarry Jokes About Expenditures—Mr. Rowell Answers Remarks on His Northern Ontario Tour.

The Budget statement of Provincial Treasurer Lucas was subjected to a searching analysis by Mr. J. C. Elliott, the Liberal member for West Middlesex, when the debate was resumed yesterday. By his method of dissection he quietly disposed of the apparent surplus of \$320,000, and demonstrated that the prophecies which had been made from his side of the House, and which the Treasurer had referred to in his speech as not being borne out by experience, had been amply justified. Mr. Elliott pointed out that, exclusive of cash balance, the total estimated receipts were \$9,793,378. On the other hand, he mentioned that there should be added to the estimated expenditure of \$11,263,711 about \$2,500,000 of statutory expenditure and \$739,000 further supplementary expenditure. On this showing there was a deficit of nearly five million dollars for the current year. Mr. Elliott also drew attention to the fact that there was entered in the receipts \$800,000 for succession duties. That amount, he pointed out, included the proportion that is payable to the University under the statute, and if this statement of receipts and expenditure was to be of any value it should show under the expenditure heading the percentage that goes to the University. This was another feature which went to show that the statement could not be considered accurate by those who wished to be informed on the financial affairs of the Province.

Mr. Elliott summed up his attack on the Budget by declaring that in the various departments expenditure was going up at a rate altogether out of proportion not only to what the ordinary elector considered reasonable, but to what was the intention of the Government a year or two ago in

regard to these particular matters.

#### Mr. McGarry's Pleasantries.

Mr. T. W. McGarry (South Renfrew) charged Mr. Elliott with dancing the hesitation waltz and Mr. Bowman with perambulating all around Government House. The Government was not afraid of increasing the expenditure if the needs of the Province demanded it. He questioned the sincerity of the Opposition in crying for social and industrial reform while they were decrying the growing expenditure as shown in the Budget. The prison farm at Guelph, the Hydro-electric, and the Department of Education were all agencies advancing the cause of social reform.

Turning to the criticism of the affairs of the T. & N. O. Railway, Mr. McGarry got into a tangle with Mr. Rowell over the Liberal leader's trip two years ago into the North country. Mr. McGarry proceeded to state that Mr. Rowell had advocated free freight cartage for settlers' effects.

"My hon. friend has stated something I did not say," replied Mr. Rowell. "I did say that the rates should not be excessive, as they were represented to us as being. They have since been reduced. Whether they are now down to a proper basis or not I cannot say. We will have to investigate that to find out."

Mr. A. H. Musgrove (North Huron), in support of the Government, claimed that there was no Province which stood in as good a position financially as the Province of Ontario, and no Province in the Dominion had "as good, efficient and honest government as this Government had given during the past nine years." It was gratifying that the revenues were in such a buoyant, prosperous and excellent condition as they were at the present time.

## IMPORTANT CHANGES TO MINING LEGISLATION

### Prospector to Get Claim as it is Staked

#### Lieutenant-Governor in Council May Decide Applications for Relief From Forfeiture—Claim Owners May Do Work by Proxy.

Hon. W. H. Hearst, Minister of Lands, Forests and Mines, introduced a bill in the Legislature yesterday to amend the mining act to facilitate the granting of applications for mining claims. Mr. Hearst explained afterwards that under a recent judicial decision it had been held that the application for a mining claim should be confined strictly to the parcel of land described. In many cases the description does not agree with the claims as staked. It is difficult to do this accurately, especially in a rough country. The policy of the act is to give the prospector the area he actually stakes out, but he is often astray in his lines and in the area he includes. Should there be a deliberate intention to exceed the area allowed for a claim, section 116 provides that the department may cut down the claim to forty acres in a manner prescribed.

#### Work by Proxy.

Another amendment makes it clear that the holder of a claim is not required personally to do the necessary work upon it. He may employ someone else. This practice is already recognized, and the change is made to bring that particular section in harmony with the rest of the act. A new section to substitute the present section 85 provides for applications for relief from forfeiture. Under the existing law forfeiture may be relieved against: (1) neglect to obtain renewal of a miner's license; (2) neglect to file with the Recorder within the stipulated time a report of the work actually done. The amend-