

would bring after it was manufactured. "We claim," declared Mr. Bowman, "that this timber as it stands at the present time has absolutely no value."

Turning his attention to the estimate given by Prof. Zavitz that the value of the young pine on the limits at the end of seventy years would be \$10,000,000, the member for North Bruce pointed out that the licensees had no interest whatever in the second growth, and the commercial value of the limits was upon the merchantable timber now standing. He showed, on the other hand, that the payment of \$185,000 capitalized at six per cent. for the same period would be over \$11,000,000.

Mr. Hearst to the Defence.

Hon. Mr. Hearst, stung by Mr. Bowman's remarks about looting and plundering of the treasury in the past by the favorites of the Government, indignantly declared that if there was any man inside or outside that House who should not have used words of that kind it was the hon. member for North Bruce.

Pressed by Mr. Bowman that he be more specific, Mr. Hearst admitted his reference was to Mr. Bowman's connection with the guarantee of the Soo industries some years ago, to which the member for Bruce replied that were it not for that action the Soo would probably by now be a deserted village.

Mr. Hearst said he did not propose to be drawn into a discussion. He had got the best expert advice he could get regarding the present purchase, and they were getting a good bargain. When the hon. member for North Bruce made a statement without making examination of the limit and gave statements made to him by this or that lumberman, he (Mr. Hearst) would say they were idle and useless in face of the positive reports of some of the best cruisers and lumbermen in Ontario to-day. Three hundred thousand dollars was the estimate of this timber by the estimators, who knew and travelled the ground and checked up every acre. He quoted from Mr. Charles Henderson, Sudbury, and Mr. Cyril T. Young, North Bay, "a man high up in the councils of the Liberal party," in support of his contention that the purchase was a good business proposition.

Mr. Proudfoot (Centre Huron) and Mr. Mageau (Sturgeon Falls) criticized the deal, and Mr. Hartt (East Simcoe) spoke in its defence.

The Lumberman's Rights.

Mr. Rowell remarked that the legal position was that these licenses would terminate at the end of a year, but no one would suggest that a lumberman who bought a limit, paid a bonus for it, putting in improvements, should have his license cancelled. A man should be given a fair opportunity to cut out the timber in the Province, and no one will question that a fair dealing between the Crown and the purchaser was a different matter from assuming the license might run perpetually. There was no evidence to show that the lumber was worth the amount stated.

Mr. Gamey defended the deal, and after Mr. Bowman and Mr. Hearst had spoken again the amendment was declared lost.

LAST MINUTE RUSH OF PRIVATE BILLS

Toronto Wants to Buy Site for P. O. Square

DELAY IN REDISTRIBUTION

Bill Respecting St. Clair Beach Causes Much Talk—Mr. Studholme Fails to Get Hamilton Bill Referred to Electors.

Owing to the near approach of the end of the session of the Legislature, the time for presenting petitions for private bills has passed. In view of this fact several members asked for the indulgence of the House yesterday to bring down eleventh-hour legislation. The matter was opened up by Mr. A. E. Peck (West Peterboro'), who had a bill to amend the municipal act, but Mr. Hanna asked that the bill stand over for a day, as he knew of a dozen similar bills, and if the way was opened for one the privilege would have to be extended to all, and the House would never complete its work.

Toronto's Postoffice Square.

Mr. W. K. McNaught (North Toronto) was, however, more fortunate. He asked for the suspension of the rules to present a petition from the city of Toronto with respect to a bill authorizing the city to negotiate with the Dominion Government for the purchase of some land on Lombard street for a postoffice square. Mr. Lucas demurred, but the Attorney-General said he had received a number of letters from property owners affected by the proposed improvement, and as there was no objection he could see no good reason for refusing the request. The rules were suspended, the petition received and subsequently the bill was introduced and read a first time.

Redistribution, but When?

On the orders of the day being called, Mr. Rowell asked if the Select Committee on Redistribution would meet before Easter. Opposition members of the committee would like an opportunity to consider the changes proposed by the Government and consult their friends in the ridings affected. The Government has had plenty of time to formulate its program, and it would not be giving the members of the Opposition an opportunity of dealing properly with the proposed changes unless a few week's time was provided to let them study the changes.

"There would be a great deal in the hon. member's argument if there were going to be any substantial changes," said Mr. Hanna. "It may relieve the hon. member to know there will be very few changes."

"If there will be very few changes it should not be necessary to keep us waiting so long."

"I think I have eliminated the worst of it," said Mr. Hanna, with a smile.

A Town of Mystery.

A bill to incorporate the town of St. Clair Beach produced some acrimonious discussion. Scant particulars were given to the Private Bills Committee, when it was decided to make the place a village.

The Opposition leader took a serious view of such a measure, and declared it departed from the general principles that had hitherto been accepted in private bill legislation. The promoters might be actuated by the best motives, but there was a danger