

the special duty of administering the law.

## **Mr. Rowell Gratified at Terms of the Bill**

Mr. N. W. Rowell in a short speech said that no member of the House could be more gratified than he was at the introduction of the bill, speaking generally as to the object of the bill, but reserving criticism until he had had an opportunity of perusing the bill when it was printed. With reference to the matter discussed by the Provincial Secretary as to whether a vote should be taken now or after the war, he heartily concurred with the view presented by the Provincial Secretary. As his honorable friend knew, it had been the view which he had entertained and expressed in the debate on the Speech from the Throne, that there should not be a vote at the present time, but after the war. "I think the men who are to live under the act should be the ones to pass upon it, those who are here when the vote is taken after the war. With reference to the date when the act shall come into operation, the Provincial Secretary, as I understand him, has said that that so far has not been decided."

Hon. Mr. Hanna—Not finally fixed; I'll put it that way.

Mr. Rowell understood that the member for West Northumberland (Mr. Clarke) had suggested July 1 as the date when prohibition should become effective, and as it was a war measure and in view of the conditions which prevailed throughout the country, he thought the bill might be brought into operation not later than the 1st of July. If they were to have the benefit of it as a war measure the earlier it was brought into force the better.

### **Liberals Support Bill.**

"The Opposition were pleased that the vote was to be on a fifty per cent. basis. The Liberals would be glad to give the whole bill their most sympathetic consideration. They earnestly hoped that when it came down and was printed they might be able to give it in all its provisions their hearty support.

"Our attitude will be one of sympathy," said Mr. Rowell, "and our desire to work out the best possible bill to accomplish the purpose in view."

### **Opinion Had Changed.**

Referring to Hon. Mr. Hanna's review of temperance legislation during the ten years in office of the Conservative party, Mr. Rowell pointed out that it was just about four years since he introduced his resolution for the abolition of the bar, "which my honorable friend (Mr. Hanna) on that occasion said was a joke. I am glad to say that we are agreed on both sides of the House now on this important advance."

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