

tem." The war might not be over for two years, and they should be prepared by making an inventory of the resources of the Province. The volunteer system put a premium on shirking. The mobilization of the French army was an example for Canada. For instance, five thousand French reservists who were in Canada at the outbreak of the war had dropped their work here and got back to France as quickly as possible. There was too much fighting over Regulation 17 in Ontario. He blamed Canada's recruiting methods for taking too many skilled men away from the workshops. "Every railway service in this Province is in a half-manned condition," he declared. His registration bill, he said, was based on the British registration bill.

Mobilizing Farmers.

Hon. T. W. McGarry, Provincial Treasurer, reminded the House that in dealing with military matters they were almost trespassing on the rights of another Parliament. The Government, he said, had not been forgetful of its duties with respect to agricultural production, industrial affairs, or the enlistment of men for the Canadian expeditionary force. They had sought the best advice possible and had been doing their utmost to assist in the successful prosecution of the war. Ontario stood behind none of the countries mentioned, either in recruiting, the production of food and war materials, or in giving funds for the care of war sufferers. Learning there was likely to be a serious shortage of farm labor, one of the Cabinet Ministers had taken steps to mobilize retired farmers. Letters had been sent to Reeves and other municipal officials, and a reply had been received from one county stating that 290 retired farmers had already signified their willingness to go back to the land and assist with the farm work. He thought the agricultural output of Ontario during this year would be as large as it was last year, when a high record was made. "In no part of the British Empire has there been such a voluntary giving of the best blood of the people as there has been in Ontario," remarked Mr. McGarry. If the young men of Ontario continued to come forward at the rate of 3,600 per week there would be no need for registration. The Government, however, were willing to consider registration, and they would be glad to listen and take any action that was necessary.

Persecution of Young Men.

Mr. Proudfoot (West Huron) was in thorough sympathy with the resolution and the bill. Referring to recruiting methods in some places the speaker said he knew of young men in various parts of the Province who were almost afraid to go out on the street because they are called slackers and yellow. He did not think that was the way men should be treated, "and if we are going to be a united people and if we are going to do the best we can we have got to take a somewhat different course."

Mr. R. R. Gamey (Manitoulin) and Mr. T. R. Atkinson (North Norfolk) also spoke. Mr. Severin Ducharme (North Essex) and Mr. Allan Studholme (Hamilton) thought action was more the duty of the Dominion Government.

The Paramount Duty.

Premier Hearst said: "The paramount duty of this House, of this Province of Ontario and of its people, is to do everything to terminate this terrible war, and to that end we are willing to avoid what may make for party advantage." The bill did not suggest anything in the nature of conscription or compulsion. The idea, as he understood it, was that it might be possible, with further information and organization, to get the results wanted without impairing the industrial and agricultural life of the Province.

Mr. Elliott's bill to grant the municipal franchise to married women was lost on division.

Roads Act Amendment.

Township Councils are affected by an amendment to the municipal act introduced by Hon. Finlay Macdiarmid, Minister of Public Works. The act at present provides that all county bridges shall be built in accord-

ance with specifications approved by the engineer of the Highways Department. The proposed amendment is to extend the service to Township Councils.

An amendment introduced by Hon. Mr. Macdiarmid to the motor vehicles act involves the transfer of that branch to the Public Works Department from the Provincial Secretary's Department.

INCORPORATION REFUSED FOR LONG BRANCH

FACTIONS AT LOGGERHEADS — PRIVATE BILLS COMMITTEE'S DECISIONS.

Residents of Long Branch yesterday applied to the Private Bills Committee of the Legislature for incorporation of the summer resort as a private village and were "turned down." Property owners outside the park objected to incorporation on the ground that they had been left out. Mr. J. Lawson said there were two factions at loggerheads. The summer and winter residents favored incorporation, while those residing in the township objected.

The committee decided in favor of giving Charles Bagot Labatt the status of a barrister.

Another decision enabled the city of Kingston to return to the system of electing Aldermen yearly.

The bill validating the agreement of the town of Sudbury with the Cooper Cliff Suburban Electric Railway Company, guaranteeing the company's bonds to the extent of \$75,000, was reported.

St. Catharines will be authorized to issue debentures amounting to \$110,000 for the high level bridge over the old Welland Canal.

The Peterboro' bill was reported, confirming by-laws fixing the assessment of the Campbell Flour Mills Company, Limited, at \$10,000, and the Grand Opera House at \$20,000.