

# SAYS MONEY WASTED ON ROADS IN NORTH

## Mr. Mageau Makes Some Sensational Charges in the Legislature — Declares Politicians Benefit

Sensational charges were made during the Budget debate in the Legislature yesterday afternoon by Mr. Zotique Mageau (Sturgeon Falls) regarding the Government's method of spending money on colonization roads in New Ontario. Instead of spending the grants for the benefit of the settlers at large, \$1,200 had been expended, said Mr. Mageau, on the construction of a road "to allow my opponent in the last election easy access to his ranch." The other settlers in the district were not benefited by the road. He charged that harrows, plows, shovels, axes and other tools which had been bought and paid for out of Government grants had been left on the road to rust, and were now being used and worn out by certain settlers. The Minister of Public Works had never taken the trouble to look into the matter. "A large portion of this money is being used for political purposes," he said, "in order to keep the spirit of the Conservative politicians up so that at the next election they may vote right. There are too many overseers. In several of the townships up there the Government has ten overseers to spend \$1,000. The Government is spending the money in order that the people will vote right 'at the right time and in the right place.'" This was a reference to the Premier's recent remark that the Government always does "the right thing at the right time."

### Easy to Pad Pay Sheets.

Mr. Mageau cited one case in which \$200 was "absolutely wasted." "The money was pocketed in a rascally, rotten way," he declared, producing a letter which claimed that \$151 had been paid to laborers for a total of 5½ days' work on the roads. Four men were involved. One had worked three days, another two days, and a third half a day. These three for that work had received \$131, while an overseer had been paid \$20. "It is a very easy matter to pad those lists," said Mr. Mageau.

### An Inquiry Coming.

"Who wrote the letter? Give us his name," asked Mr. Henri Morel (Nipissing).

Mr. Mageau—I will give you his name at the right time—before the Public Accounts Committee.

Mr. Morel—He's a Liberal.

Mr. Mageau—Wait and see.

### Money for Tory Politicians.

The member for Sturgeon Falls repeated the charge that the money had been divided among Tory politicians. "There could have been no other reason," said he, "than to satisfy the craving appetites of those political supporters of the Government. The Province is not getting fifty per cent. of the benefits from that money that it would receive if the money were given to the municipalities instead of to the politicians. It is a disgrace to the Department of Public Works. It is no way to spend the people's money. (Applause.) The grants should be earmarked and spent by the municipalities to which they are given. To-day, under the present system, there is no limit to the possibilities of graft. The Minister of Public Works would not allow his personal money to be spent in that way."

### French-Canadians Doing Their Bit.

Mr. Mageau alluded to what the French-Canadians had done in join-

ing the New Ontario battalions, and among one of the cases cited mentioned the 159th Battalion, which was composed of forty-five per cent. of French-Canadians, despite the fact that there was not a French-Canadian officer. They had also helped the other regiments, and the French-Canadians not only in this Province but in Quebec might have done better if they had been given the opportunities. The member for Sturgeon Falls said he had offered to raise a battalion of French-Canadians in New Ontario. General Logie had told him that there were too many battalions being raised then and the proposed battalion would interfere with them.

### Minister's Costly Delay.

The Minister of Militia said his request would be taken into consideration. He wrote a second time, but that permission was never given to him and they were apparently still considering it. He was satisfied that if he had been given that permission he could have recruited a French-Canadian battalion which would have been overseas six months ago. Mr. Mageau stated he had a son who had gone overseas, and who had recruited 200 or 300 French-Canadians.

Proceeding, Mr. Mageau said at last Federal election the editor of The Toronto News and the editor of Le Devoir were partners in order to defeat Laurier and Imperialism. Was it right because a few did not believe in participating in the Empire's war that the whole French-Canadian race should be stigmatized and set aside as a class? The time had arrived to put the "Bonne Entente" into action.

### Need No Champion.

Mr. J. T. H. Regan (South Wentworth), taking notice of Mr. Mageau's remarks, said he believed every man in the House would feel that the French-Canadians in Ontario were as loyal people as there were in the Dominion of Canada. "But why undertake to champion Quebec?" remarked Mr. Regan. "The member for Sturgeon Falls is an Ontario man, and I may say so far as the French-Canadians in Ontario are concerned he has nothing to champion." The money of the Province, declared the member for South Wentworth, was being honestly and judiciously spent, and the Government had looked well after the interests of the farmers.

## NICKEL LANDS WENT TO TRUST

"Private Prospectors" Were  
Employees of Corporation

### DEWART'S HOT ANSWER

Hundreds of Acres Granted to Canadian Copper Co. Since War Began—  
Company Offered Output to Government. Says Mr. Lucas.

There were several dramatic features in the Legislature last night when Mr. Hartley Dewart spoke in the Budget debate. He charged that three lots in the heart of the nickel belt were staked and recorded on Jan. 8, 1916, by C. H. Hitchcock, mining geologist for the Canada Copper Co., and an employee of that company for some years, four lots in the same township, Blezard, were staked and recorded on the same