

war tax. By drawing the line at whatever point he considered desirable, as between capital and current expenditure, the Provincial Treasurer was able to give a statement which showed up to his own satisfaction. The leader of the Opposition maintained there was a deficit of something over \$700,000.

## Mr. Rowell Says Deal Direct With Britain

Regarding the Treasurer's announcement for purchasing \$17,000,000 Ontario securities held in Great Britain, Mr. Rowell said he hoped that in dealing with this important transaction the Treasurer would find it possible to deal directly with the Imperial Government. It did not seem reasonable that if the Province of Ontario wished to retire \$17,000,000 of her securities now in Great Britain in order that she may help Great Britain in this struggle she should have to carry out the transaction through Morgan & Co. in New York and pay a commission to that house.

### Ottawa Should Buy Machine Guns.

Mr. Rowell, dealing with war expenditures, said he would not be captiously critical, but submitted there was one particular expenditure which was properly one for the Federal Government, and that was machine guns. He quoted Sir Robert Borden, who had said that expenditures on machine guns should be paid out of the Federal Exchequer and borne by all the people of the Dominion. Mr. Rowell said he could not see why it should not be provided by a greater tax upon war profits of those who were profiting so largely by the war than that this expenditure should be met by taxing the whole people of the Province. As to what had been said as to the value of machine guns he was in hearty accord, because this war had proved how indispensable they were to the proper arming of our troops. The leader of the Opposition went on to say he would not have referred to the matter of machine guns but for the remarks which the member for East Simcoe (Capt. Hartt) made regarding the member for West Bruce (Mr. Bowman). His honorable friend the member for West Bruce had information which, he believed, justified him in making the statements he made, for he had information from officers or men of actual experience.

### Expects Province to Get Value.

"I have no personal knowledge of the facts or details in connection with that matter, but as the question has been raised and as my honorable friends have been pressing it in this House, I feel I would not be doing my duty if I did not say to this House what I know myself in connection with this matter," went on the leader of the Opposition. "I say it in no controversial spirit, because I am sure the members on the Government side are as much interested as the members on this side in seeing that the Province gets a proper return for the moneys expended. My honorable friend the Minister of Lands, Forests and Mines, according to a statement, has suggested that the people who made Lewis machine guns had a factory in the United States and another at Birmingham. I have had an opportunity of visiting the Birmingham Small Arms factory at Birmingham. It is one of the greatest organizations for the production of small arms in the world. But the Lewis machine guns manufactured by the Birmingham Small Arms Company were not the guns purchased and sent overseas.

## Tells of Complaints Regarding Machine Guns

"The guns purchased for overseas by this Government were the guns manufactured in the United States by the Savage Arms Company, and we are only mystifying ourselves, mystifying the country, when we mix up the guns purchased in the United States from the Savage Company with those manufactured by the Birmingham Small Arms Company. I feel, on account of the mystification created, the necessity of drawing a distinction between the two. When I was at Shorncliffe the guns there being used were the Lewis guns made by the Birmingham Small Arms Company. It naturally aroused my curiosity, and I asked where were the Canadian guns. I was told that they had not proved

satisfactory."

Hon. T. W. McGarry—Who told you?

Mr. Rowell—I was told by officers.  
Hon. Mr. McGarry—I ask you to give the names.

Mr. Rowell—I shall not give any officer's name, but I will tell my hon. friend what I did. I was so surprised on learning that information that one of my first acts upon my return to Canada was to lay that information before the Prime Minister of Canada, the one man in the position to remedy the matter.

Hon. Mr. McGarry—Did my hon. friend get an answer?

Mr. Rowell—I did, and he said he would have it looked into.

Hon. Mr. McGarry—Did you give him the names of the officers?

### Mr. Rowell Would Help.

Mr. Rowell—"No, he did not ask, but I will tell you this: that I stated to the Prime Minister of Canada that all the information I have gathered in connection with this and some other matters of public interest was at his disposal. I would go to Ottawa at any time and give the fullest information. If the Savage Company has furnished machine guns—they are really big rifles capable of firing so many more rounds than a rifle—if they have not been as required we should get at the facts.

### Province Should Get Money Back.

"If the Government has not got full value for its money the manufacturers should be made to recoup the Province for the moneys that have been expended. It might be that all the guns were not defective, it might be that some were perfectly good. There was no doubt, so far as Sir Robert Borden was concerned, he was not aware, as his letter indicated, of the matters he had mentioned."

### Like Ross Rifle.

The leader of the Opposition referred to the Ross rifle and how those who questioned the efficiency of that rifle were criticized and denounced. His information was that these guns jammed as the Ross rifle jammed. It might not be correct, but the matter should be looked into.

## McGarry Makes Reply to Opposition Critics

In opening, Hon. Mr. McGarry referred to the remarks of the members for North Middlesex and North Brant with respect to expenditures for "cut flowers" and "brass pokers" at Government House. He declared that the item under the heading "cut flowers" was really for shrubs, plants and bulbs, grass seed and garden tools. As for the criticism about pokers, he thought the Opposition members were descending to a pretty low level when they wailed about the "immorality and iniquity of purchasing a brass poker to stand against the fireplace at Government House." He deplored the "inferential attack on Sir John Hendrie, who, with his lady, has given more of his time during the past two and a half years to winning the war than any other man in the city of Toronto." Cut flowers for the Lieutenant-Governor's table, declared the Provincial Treasurer, are paid for by the Lieut.-Governor himself out of his private purse. He added that the Lieutenant-Governor's only son had been at the front since the beginning of the war in command of a battery. (Applause.)

### Mr. Hay Makes Impression.

Hon. Mr. McGarry congratulated Mr. Wellington Hay, the new member for North Perth, upon the tone and excellence of his maiden speech, and went on to pay his respects to the new member for Southwest Toronto (Mr. Hartley Dewart). He had always had the greatest respect for the legal attainments of Mr. Dewart, but that member's remarks on the previous evening and during a previous debate had caused him some amazement. "For the first time since he came into this House the hon. member for Southwest Toronto referred last evening to the leader of the Opposition as 'my leader.' (Laughter.)"

### Mr. Dewart and Nickel.

"Since the hon member for Southwest Toronto came into this House," continued Mr. McGarry, "he has spoken for five hours, and four hours and fifty minutes of that time have