

date, and at the same time was being paid by the Government for work he was supposed to be performing in New Ontario as fire ranger.

Stirred Into Action.

The debate was closed by Hon. Mr. Ferguson, who quoted from a paper read by Mr. J. F. Whitson before the Land Surveyors' Association showing how the fire protection system had been built up under the present Administration. A policy had been inaugurated by the Conservative Government providing for reforestation and conservation of the forests. They had also taken steps to build up the pulp and paper industry, and he hoped that in a few years New Ontario would be the chief source of supply of pulp and paper not only for Canada but for the United States as well. If possible they would see that the paper manufacturing industry was developed, and that the pulp was not shipped to the United States for manufacture into the finished article there. He did not think the Liberals could find much fault with the appointment of Mr. E. J. Zavitz as Provincial Forester, as Mr. Zavitz had formerly been appointed by a Liberal Government to a position at the Ontario Agricultural College. "So far as I am concerned," concluded Mr. Ferguson, "Grit and Tory are the same to me as long as they are good bushmen, and that will be the policy of the department as long as I am head of it. In future we will, however, favor returned soldiers or men who have applied and been rejected by the army." The bill was then given its second reading.

Mr. Dewart Moves For Explicit Facts

Mr. H. Hartley Dewart (Southwest Toronto) has given notice that he will move in the Legislature for a return of all correspondence and documents showing the number of transfers and mortgages registered during each and every of the five years preceding the year 1917 in the Land Titles Offices in the Province of Ontario and the fees received in respect thereof; the number of other instruments registered during each and every of the said years in the said offices and the fees received in respect thereof; the number of certificates issued by the said offices in each and every of the said years and the fees received in respect thereof; the total amount of fees received by said offices in each and every of the said years and the total amount of disbursements made by the said offices in each and every of the said years; the total amount of money standing to the credit of the assurance fund pursuant to the land titles act on the 1st day of January, 1917; the total amount of losses paid out of the said fund up to the 1st day of January, 1917; the total amount paid by the city of Toronto to make up any deficit or deficits (if any) for the Land Titles Office in the said city, pursuant to section 146 of the land titles act; the total amount of fees received in excess of disbursements by the Land Titles Office in the said city since the aforesaid deficit or deficits ceased; the number of plans of subdivisions filed in each and every of the Land Titles Offices of the Province of Ontario during the last ten years ending 31st of December, 1916; the acreage of land shown by the said plans; the number of lots shown by the said plans to be in the city of Toronto and county of York respectively.

Hamilton Gets Leave to Issue Debentures

The Private Bills Committee of the Legislature yesterday reported the city of Hamilton bill asking for power to issue debentures for \$74,000 without the assent of the electors. The purposes of the bill included: The purchase and equipment of playgrounds, \$11,000; cover overdraft for relief of unemployed, \$10,000; expenditures in connection with overseas forces in 1915, \$8,300; sewer and disposal work, \$4,800; overdraft; acquiring of city coal yard, \$20,000; for construction of Dandurn bathing beach and subway under G.T.R. tracks, \$25,000. There were two other clauses in the bill, one for the establishing of municipal food and fuel depots at a cost of \$250,000, which was struck out, as there is already a public bill covering this. A clause for the providing of a fund for the aid of the mothers, widows, children, aged or infirm parents, besides the sweethearts, of any men who are killed at the front, was allowed to stand. The idea is that \$1,000 should be paid in the case of a married man and \$500 in the case of a single man.

MINISTRY FAILS PUBLIC IN TIME OF TESTING

Mr. Hartley Dewart's Stinging Arraignment of Govern- mental Incompetence and Lethargy—Dodging the Nickel Issue—Messrs. Clarke and Marshall Mak- ing Telling Speeches

"While the policy of taxation as forced upon the people by the Government is a matter of vital importance to those who have to stand the burden, it is also equally important that the Government should, during peace and war-time, endeavor to pursue a policy of economy and thrift," declared Mr. Hartley Dewart, K.C., M.P.P., last night at a large and enthusiastic meeting of the Southwest Toronto Liberal Association, held in Occident Hall.

The Opposition At Work.

"The members of the Opposition are the watch-dogs. They have already, under the leadership of Mr. N. W. Rowell, demonstrated to the satisfaction of the people, among whom are to be found thousands of Conservatives throughout the Province, that the Government is not capable of handling the situation. It is the business of the Opposition, when every nerve is being strained, to see that the business of the Province is properly conducted. We have risen to the occasion. We have bombarded the Government, the fortifications of which wavered when the eminent members of the Cabinet discovered that the energies of the Opposition were too much for the guise of patriotism behind which they had endeavored to conceal themselves."

Mr. Ferguson's Flight.

"The Government, and particularly the Minister of Lands, Forests and Mines, has repeatedly side-stepped the nickel charges," added Mr. Dewart. "The truth hurts. The Minister realizes that he is up against a proposition that cannot be cast aside without a proper explanation, but it is apparent by his actions that he is endeavoring to keep in the back-