

RANEY DEFENDS APPOINTMENTS

Dewart is Critical About
E. W. Holmes and Judge
H. S. Mott

The Liberal Leader, H. H. Dewart, took occasion in the Legislature yesterday to move an adjournment to discuss the method adopted by the Attorney-General, Hon. W. E. Raney, in making appointments to Government positions. The particular reference was to the appointment of E. W. Holmes as Assistant Master of Titles in the Crown Lands Department. Along with this one case, Mr. Dewart went into others, including the appointment of Mr. Mott as Judge of the Juvenile Court. He did not criticize the appointee, but rather the method of appointment, and also the giving of another position to Mr. Boyd, who was succeeded by Mr. Mott. Mr. Dewart complained that the Attorney-General had never consulted any of the Toronto members about these appointments.

In connection with the appointment of Mr. Holmes, he said that another man in the department qualified for the position had been overlooked. He asked if the Attorney-General was to be a law unto himself in the matters of these appointments.

Col. Price (Parkdale was inclined to agree with Mr. Dewart, that the members should be consulted. He said that many more Liberals had been appointed by the present Government than had Conservatives. It ought to be a "fifty-fifty" arrangement, he thought.

"Are you aware that Mr. Mott is a Conservative?" asked Hon. Manning Doherty.

"I understood he was a school teacher," replied Col. Price, amid laughter.

Hon. Mr. Raney, in reply, said he had not heard a single bit of criticism until Mr. Dewart spoke. "I recommended both men and stand behind it, as the Government does," said the Attorney-General. He did not think that he had to advertise vacancies when they occurred, or run after members to consult them about appointments. He repudiated the charge of Col. Price, that mostly Liberals were being appointed, by naming Conservatives who had been appointed to various positions.

MEANS TO EXTEND OFFICES OF GOVT.

Minister Tells of Change
Coming at Queen's
Park

That the Parliament Buildings in Queen's Park will in the not too distant future be used for administration purposes alone and that the general offices will be elsewhere, was the prediction of Hon. F. C. Biggs, Minister of Public Works, in the Legislature last night.

He said that, seeing that the buildings were crowded, he had been endeavoring to work out a plan of rearrangement by which he hoped accommodation would be improved. The discussion arose when members of groups complained that the accommodation for members was not what it should be.

SCORES FOES OF THE BONUS

Col. Cooper Starts Discussion—Decision Will be
Reached Later

"Everybody who did a little bit of extra work got \$100 or \$200 or some such sum. It is no wonder that the soldiers asked for \$2,000. I have been in the trenches for a 22-hour day and never got an extra cent." Such were the words of Lieut.-Col H. S. Cooper (Northwest Toronto) in the Public Accounts Committee yesterday in reference to the paying of bonuses to civil servants from a sum which certain members said was misappropriated when used for that purpose.

The sum was named for the Natural Resources Committee, and a large part of it was used for bonusing the civil service. Married men got \$200 and single men \$100. It was for the inside service alone. It was stated that this bonus was the first ever paid to the civil service. It was under strict Government supervision, according to witnesses.

R. R. Hall (Parry Sound) said he did not think that the sum had been properly applied. He was not opposed to bonuses for civil servants, but this one had been taken out of the wrong fund. Mr. Hall wanted to move a resolution to that effect, but Chairman J. W. Currie ruled this beyond the jurisdiction of the committee. He thought a finding of the board could be submitted to the House.

Z. Mageau was of different opinion, and thought that a motion declaring misappropriation of funds could be sent in by the committee. No further action was taken, however, as it was decided to call Civil Service Commissioner McCutcheon to the next meeting to give further evidence.

WILL IMPROVE LANDS DEPT.

Hon. Beniah Bowman Tells
House of Some Reforms
to Come

Considerable reorganization in the outside forces of the Lands and Forests Department was indicated by the remarks of Hon. Beniah Bowman in the Legislature yesterday. The new Government when it came into power had found an antiquated system in use. It was the intention to have the woods and forests branch more competent and to improve the fire-ranging system, and to make a perfect system of protection for forests from the Ottawa to the Manitoba boundary. When men had showed that they were competent they would be taken on the permanent staff.

Hon. Mr. Bowman defended the appointment of Mr. Titus of Gore Bay as Law Clerk of the department. He said that with him there much money would be saved in legal fees. Premier Drury said that all competent persons would be taken on the permanent staff, and that the old system in that respect would be changed.

Z. Mageau (Sturgeon Falls) criticized the fire-ranging system which made schoolboys fire-rangers.