

the sum of \$172,000.

Disposed Without Tenders.

"If this company goes on getting out pulpwood at the rate of 80,000 cords a season, as I understand they did last year," he said, "then there won't be much pulpwood left with which to make paper in 1928, by which time the Government says they must make paper." Hon. Mr. Ferguson also drew to the attention of the House the fact that 40 square miles had been given to the company without tenders being called for. Henceforth, therefore, he said, no Minister of this Government could get up on the public hustings and declare for no more disposals of public lands without tenders.

Premier Drury, in explaining the bill, outlined the agreement entered into between the Government and the company, by which the company guaranteed the Province against the loss of any portion of the half million dollars it was putting in. It was hoped, he said, that the new town would not only become an industrial town, but would become the centre of a farming community, forming a centre for educational and social activities.

OPEN FINE AREAS OF HALIBURTON

Member for North Victoria
Extols Beauty of His
Native Heath

GOOD ROADS WILL DO IT

Resumption of the debate on the Budget last night gave the members of the Legislature the lightest sitting of the present session. Mr. John Joynt of North Huron, who was to resume the discussion of Hon. Peter Smith's agenda, was absent through illness, and Mr. A. W. Gray of Leeds had to step into the breach. He was followed by Mr. Mageau Liberal, of Sturgeon Falls, and Rev. Edgar Watson, U. F. O. member for North Victoria. The debate was adjourned by H. H. Dewart, southwest Toronto, at 11 o'clock.

Free School Books.

A. W. Gray, Leeds, on taking up the debate in lieu of Mr. Joynt, went on record as approving the principle of free text-books for public school pupils; in fact, he said, each pupil should be given a complete set of books as his own property.

The first Liberal speaker, Z. Mageau of Sturgeon Falls, made brief introductory reference to the Ontario Temperance Act, which, he said, was not a good measure; any act involving so many infringements, he thought, could not possibly be called a good act.

Referring to a personal experience he had in Essex county, the member for Sturgeon Falls told of being stopped on the road.

Wild Experiences.

"We were going ahead in our car," said Mr. Mageau, "when, bang! bang! bang!—and we stopped. A constable told us he was looking for 'booze.' I had some money on me, and I want to tell you, had it been up in our country, I would not have stopped. I'd have kept on going. Now Mr. speaker, my point is this: An act that has to be administered at the point of the revolver is not a good act."

Mr. Mageau gave the House a technical lecture upon the use and working of the "Doyle rule," based upon his long experience as a lumberman. The rule, he said, was much talked about, but not understood by many who made mention of it.

"I do not belong to the gang that was protected by the late Minister of Lands, Forests and Mines, and I am proud of it," declared the member for Sturgeon Falls. He would defy anyone, he went on, to show that, in a year's operations, his

company, or any company, gained anything by the use of the Doyle rule above the original scale.

Good Roads Advocate.

Edgar Watson, U. F. O. member for North Victoria, was the last speaker of the evening session, and he urged the necessity of a continued expenditure upon roadways in that portion of the Province in which his constituency lay. Some of the area in question, he admitted, never should have been opened up for settlement; now, however, the people were there, as a result of Governmental action years ago, and it was the duty of the Government today to protect their interests.

"I would suggest to the Government the construction of some sort of belt-line, or connecting road, that would render accessible the magnificent resort areas of Haliburton," said Mr. Watson.

"This belt-line might leave the Government highway system in Central Ontario and connect up with the Bobcaygeon road on to Dorset and Baysville, thence to Bracebridge and back to the Provincial system. It would not cost a great deal, and it would open up for tourist use the finest area, so far as scenery is concerned, in Ontario."

GUM-SHOE MEN ON HIS TRAIL

Hon. G. H. Ferguson So Declares in Public Accounts Quiz

HARDING ALSO SHADOWED

Before the Public Accounts Committee of the Legislature yesterday Hon. Howard Ferguson resumed his examination of R. T. Harding, late Government counsel in the timber inquiry. The former Minister of Lands attempted to go minutely into the disbursements of Mr. Harding during his direction of the inquiry, but announced his inability to proceed because of insufficient details provided by the witness regarding his accounts.

Following a brief probe of certain items of expenditure, the Conservative Leader read a letter written last Thursday by the Provincial Auditor, in which that official tabulated some 75 items of the Harding accounts, which, he declared, he could not pass because of insufficiency of information.

"I think you are going to have your own troubles in getting these accounts past the Provincial Auditor," Hon. Mr. Ferguson remarked, finally, to the witness, who asked a further adjournment of one week in order to bring before the committee his bookkeeper and her set of books.

A feature of the evidence was the appearance of "Exhibit A"—the letter of credit given to Mr. Harding by the Provincial Treasurer and deposited by the former with the Manager of the Home Bank of Canada as a guarantee against advances on account. This letter, asked for last Wednesday by Hon. Mr. Ferguson, proved to be a credit of \$10,000, not \$25,000, as stated by Mr. Harding in his evidence a week ago.

Payment to Commissioners.

Directing attention to an item in the statement of expenditure placed before the committee, which showed a payment, on account, of \$2,000 each to Commissioners Riddell and Latchford, Hon. Mr. Ferguson asked Mr. Harding if, at the time of payment, he had known about the new Judges Act.

Witness—Yes.

Hon. Mr. Ferguson—You knew about it when you paid the Judges?

Witness—No; I—

Hon. Mr. Ferguson—Yes, you did. And you talked it over with them. You weren't going to take any chances, and you issued the cheques