

Information Before Money Votes.

Proceeding, the Liberal Leader said, in so far as his party was concerned, not one dollar of money for any department of Government at this session would be voted until the Liberals asked the Premier to have each Minister render to the House a fair statement of his department for the past fiscal year, and give also a fair resume of what might be expected for the coming year.

Reverting to the Chippawa development, Mr. Hay said that the Government and the Hydro Commission did not agree. The Liberals did not wish to make a move of any kind that would hinder the work of the Hydro Commission in Ontario, but there was a feeling in the Province, rightly or wrongly, that this new development at Chippawa had cost more than it should have cost. The cost had exceeded very largely the estimates. It would be a big obligation on everybody, and a big responsibility, to collect

revenue enough to pay, some day, something on capital account.

Liberals Oppose Commissions.

Generally speaking, the Liberals were opposed to commissions, proceeded Mr. Hay, but he wondered if it would not be a good thing to appoint from the House a committee to investigate, not the possibility of what profits the project would pay, but to deal with the differences of opinion that appeared to exist between the Government and the Hydro Commission, largely as to the amount of money that had been required to complete the Chippawa project. The public ought to be satisfied that the money had been reasonably expended.

"Is it not our duty, as members, to be able to go to our constituencies and say that a committee of this House has made an investigation, and that the findings of this committee are such and so?" asked Mr. Hay. "We want to satisfy ourselves that contracts were let to the lowest tenders and that value was received for the money expended."

Mr. Hay said that perhaps the Legislature had gone as far as it thought it ought to go in making public the various opinions on Hydro-radial construction, but thought that municipalities might have machinery to enable them to construct radials if they wished. Electrification of existing roads frequently might be helpful to the larger places, and the smaller places would suffer. If, however, the withdrawal of Government guarantees would be a dominant factor in selling radial securities, then "that might be another matter."

Public Money Not Saved.

The Liberal Leader asserted that up to the present there had been no saving of public money by the tying up of endorsement of radial bonds. The money had not yet been expended, and there had been no loss. Even with the endorsement of the Government, there would have been no loss, because municipalities like Toronto, Hamilton and St. Catharines were able to take care of any obligations that might arise.

Something should be done regarding the conservation of timber resources, said Mr. Hay, and passing on to Mr. Raney's department he said that he looked on the office of Attorney-General as one which should not get into controversies in newspapers. He admitted that, as those trying to violate the Ontario Temperance Act were actuated by desire of commercial gain, the situation was difficult to handle. Regarding the proposed "blue sky" laws, he said the Government should be careful not to interfere with the development of mining. If in floating mining ventures they could regulate the amount that had to go to the company for legitimate purposes, such legislation would be helpful.

The Liberal Leader twitted Mr. Drury on his speeches during the Dominion election. He understood from Mr. Drury's speeches last spring, proceeded Mr. Hay, that the Premier of Ontario was going to make the legislation at Ottawa on the English River limits an issue, but he did no such thing, asserted Mr. Hay. Hon. Mr. King and Mr. Pardee championed the rights of the Province of Ontario at Ottawa, but Mr. Crerar voted for the then Government.

Praise for Mr. Ferguson.

An unexpected tribute to Mr. Ferguson was given when discussing the North Oxford by-election. "If he's not a good hunter, he's a mighty good sport" declared Mr. Hay, in commending the Tory Chief for not opposing the Liberals. He predicted that North Oxford would return to the Liberal fold next election.

He also extracted considerable amusement out of the Dominion election figures, showing how in many instances Farmer majorities in 1919 had been turned into minorities though Mr. Drury had spoken on behalf of the Progressive candidates.

"The policy of the Liberals will be to give assistance to friend or foe when the proposals will be beneficial to the whole Province," he concluded. "The Liberal party stands now and always steadfast to the principles of Liberalism."