

PATRONAGE CRY HEARD IN HOUSE

Government Accused of
"Muddling" Deal With
Paper Company

DRURY WILL EXPLAIN

Charging that political influences and unbusinesslike methods on the part of the Drury Government were responsible for the impasse in which the Government finds itself with respect to the Great Lakes Pulp and Paper Company of Fort William and the Nipigon development, D. M. Hogarth, member for Port Arthur, elicited from Premier Drury, in the Legislature yesterday, a promise of a full statement on the situation.

Insist Agreement Broken.

In spite of denials by the Attorney-General, Mr. Hogarth and later Hon. G. H. Ferguson, insisted during yesterday's discussion that agreement had been arrived at between all parties for the establishment of a plant at Bear Point. Everybody was satisfied with the terms, he said, which included a price on Nipigon Hydro power, and then, according to Mr. Hogarth, Hon. Harry Mills, member for Fort William, used his influence to have the site changed to Mission, near Fort William. The company refused to pay the enhanced price of power that the move entailed, and as a result, declared the member, Port Arthur found itself today without the industry, and the Government and the Hydro Commission without the expected market for Nipigon power.

Pressing Influence Used.

"If the Government had handled this thing in a businesslike way," declared Mr. Hogarth, "and had not been susceptible to pressing influences, we would have had the industry established at the head of the lakes, and we would have had a customer for ten or fifteen thousand horsepower." With considerable vigor he expressed the opinion that Hon. G. H. Ferguson, Conservative Leader, had more knowledge of the requirements of the North country in his little finger than the Drury Government had in its collective anatomy.

Hon. Harry Mills followed, with an explanation that Fort William had not been given an opportunity of being heard on the contract. He felt, he said, that both sides in the dispute should be given a hearing, which was finally done. He denied personal interference.

Interference by Mills.

Hon. G. H. Ferguson expressed the conviction that existing conditions were due entirely to "the interference of the Minister of Mines, on the principle of local patronage, with the contract and arrangement that had been already established."

Wellington Hay, Liberal Leader, agreed it was evident that there had been "some bungling on the part of somebody," and expressed a desire to have the whole situation laid before the House and explained by the Prime Minister, a suggestion to which the Premier gave assent.

A CASE OF PARENTAGE.

Hon. Howard Ferguson asked in the Legislature yesterday if the bill to establish a Provincial Board of Alienists, introduced by J. Walter Curry (Southeast Toronto), was a Government bill. Mr. Raney said it was. Mr. Ferguson said he thought the Attorney-General, "rather than his assistant," should take the responsibility for the bill.