

POWER SCARCITY HANDICAPS MINING IN NORTH COUNTRY

Ontario Government Criticized in Speech by Liberal Member for Cochrane

DISCLAIMER FROM DRURY

That the mining districts of Northern Ontario are growing restive as the result of a shortage of electrical power, which is seriously handicapping operation of the mines, was indicated by a protest registered in the Legislature yesterday afternoon by M. Lang (Independent Liberal, Cochrane), who criticized the Government on the ground of failure to take steps to remedy the situation.

Rising before the orders of the day were called, the member for Cochrane quoted at length from a despatch in yesterday's Globe under a Timmins date line which detailed the seriousness of existing conditions.

"Some action should be taken at once to provide power for the natural development that would take place in the Porcupine Camp," said Mr. Lang, after pointing out that the difficulty of securing power for the mines had been brought to the attention of the Government repeatedly. "Conditions are serious now and they are going to be more so. Kirkland Lake and Cobalt are also affected. The Government should develop power itself or allow somebody else who is willing to do so."

Government Will Negotiate.

In reply Premier Drury stated that the Government was prepared to negotiate a lease for power concessions on the Abitibi River when the parties concerned would accept the conditions which were essential to the general welfare of the district. The Hollinger Mine, he said, had been seeking a lease at Carrying Place, but had not accepted terms which were satisfactory to the Government.

Further query by Mr. Lang brought another reply, from Hon. Beniah Bowman, Minister of Lands and Forests, who stated that the conditions which the Hollinger people had been asked to accept had been necessary for the safeguarding of the interests of other power users on the Abitibi, notably the pulp companies. "We hope we will arrive soon at a point where we will be able to issue a lease to someone," he concluded.

Attorney-General Raney hazarded the opinion that the present shortage was due to the severity of the weather, but was met with the retort from Mr. Lang that the weather was not something which was here today and gone tomorrow.

LEGISLATURE HONORS AMERICAN VISITOR

Courtesy Extended to Hon.
H. C. Wallace, U. S. Secretary of Agriculture

MESSAGE OF FRATERNITY

Hon. H. C. Wallace, Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture, was yesterday afternoon accorded the courtesy of addressing the Ontario Legislature from the floor of the House. In introducing Hon. Mr. Wallace, Premier Drury welcomed the visitor as the official representative of the United States Government, and expressed pleasure at extending to him the courtesy which had been given other distinguished guests.

Mr. Wallace took advantage of the occasion to voice his gratitude at the kindness with which he had been received in Toronto. "I have been here two days," he said, "and not at any time have I realized that I've been in a foreign land."

"We are, to all intents and purposes, one people. We have the same hopes, the same ambitions, the same standards, the same fidelity to law and order, and in both cases our national prosperity depends to a large extent on the prosperity of agriculture."

Continuing, the speaker stressed the need for bringing home to the farmer the truth of the statement that he alone could work out his own salvation. It was the duty of governments to teach the people their own obligations. He was glad to say that the signs of advance in agriculture were much brighter now than they had been a year ago.

"As we look across the sea and observe conditions there, and then turn our eyes back to our homelands, we ought to praise the Lord and ask Him to make us worthy of our blessings."