

would be held, so that the municipalities would be getting their lists ready. Premier Ferguson said the Government desired to know what time of the year would prove most economical to take the vote, and was conferring with the Chief Election Officer on that and other means of keeping down the expenses.

### **To Take Vote in Fall?**

Mr. Sinclair—If the municipalities knew now that there was to be a vote at the end of October, or some time early in the fall—

Premier Ferguson—If the vote were not before Christmas there would be no trouble.

Mr. Doherty — You can't draw him.

The rest of the day was a field day for private members, who arose one after the other on every side to discuss, under the heading of the \$10,000 vote for committee expenses, every phase of Provincial economics in which they were particularly interested. Tariff loomed largely in discussions, members dividing pretty well on party lines in their advocacy of protection or freer trade.

Premier Ferguson announced that the wolf bounty had been reduced to \$15.

Hon. John S. Martin, Minister of Agriculture, made his maiden speech in the Legislature, and was accorded a round of applause from all the groups as he arose for the first time.

### **Sorry Grant is Cut.**

In opening his address, Hon. John S. Martin, Minister of Agriculture, regretted very much, he said, that the Dominion authorities had seen fit to curtail grants to Ontario agriculture. He believed that the special committee, which was immediately under discussion, could be the means of very great assistance to the farmers of Ontario in making careful research into Ontario's agricultural problems in their special relation to transportation. He said that the services of the whole Guelph O.A.C. staff would be at the disposal of the committee so that they could make the most efficient study of any matters in which they were interested.

Mr. Martin stressed his opinion that Ontario had not by any means reached the acme of productive efficiency in agriculture. He mentioned the poultry angle, in which he personally has attained eminent rank, as an important means of revenue to the farm, and expressed the conviction that the egg production of Ontario quite easily could be doubled.

### **Advocates Tariff.**

A. H. Acres (Conservative, Carleton) advocated high tariff as a means to improve general conditions in Ontario. He advocated embargo on Ontario pulp and the taking of steps to remove a situation where the "most promising young nation in the world" expended \$256,000,000 annually for products that it could furnish by its own industry and initiative.

A. P. Mewhinney (Liberal, West Bruce) thought that possibly the farmer today was farming too much land, and was not getting the return he would get if he farmed less acreage and grew better produce.

T. J. Mahoney (Conservative, South Wentworth) complained that fruits from the United States were given precedence over Canadian fruits in hotels and such places. Fruit growers in Ontario, he went on, were subjected to the competition of fruit products from the Southern United States put on the market by the aid of cheap negro labor. He argued in favor of tariffs.

### **Home Market Deteriorates.**

R. H. Kemp (Progressive, Lincoln) said Canada had built up industrial centres to create a home market, and the home market was not as good as it was 40 years ago. The industrial centres were not loyal to their own people; the people in them were not supporting the farmer.

N. Trewartha (Conservative, South Huron) advocated protection for agriculture. J. G. Lethbridge (Progressive, Middlesex) was against a tariff until the home market could consume all home-grown produce. T. A. Thompson (Conservative, North Lanark) urged higher tariffs, while Hon. Dougall Carmichael (Progressive, Centre Grey) thought an investigation by experts in the Department of Agriculture would be better than the proposed investigation by a House committee and would be less costly.