

Friday, Feb. 19th

the stump against the Hearst candidate."

Mr. Raney—I made two speeches. I made a speech for a personal friend of mine, Sam Carter, in Guelph, and I wouldn't care who his opponent was. He was an Independent candidate. I made another speech for my friend W. H. McPherson. If the honorable member has any criticism of what I did, let him make the most of it.

Mr. Ferguson declared that Mr. Raney had vigorously opposed C. H. Buckland, Conservative candidate in Guelph, a returned soldier, and father of two soldier boys.

"Shame!" cried Government members.

Refers to New Bureau.

Mr. Ferguson referred to an article in The Toronto Star of Jan. 27, 1926, entitled, "New Prohibition Body Sponsored by Mr. Raney Fore-shadows a Hot Fight," and said: "You were responsible and took part in the organization at that time."

Mr. Raney undertook to explain the organization of the prohibition body which Mr. Ferguson had termed "the donkey engine." "This donkey engine," said he, "was organized to carry on the very thing that the honorable member has been advocating. Its business is principally educational. It will therefore be non-partisan—"

Government members interrupted with guffaws.

"non-sectarian," continued Mr. Raney, "and will maintain a strict neutrality in matters of public policy other than traffic in liquors."

Mr. Ferguson, "Who brought the temperance issue into politics? Who is more responsible than the honorable gentleman who has just taken his seat? A great deal has been said by the leaders of this organization about democratic principles. If democratic principles mean freedom of thought and speech, is it in keeping with such principles to secure written pledges from all people not to vote for a Conservative? I ask again, Can an organization of that kind be called anything else but a political and active organization to defeat the Government?"

Mr. Raney—Does the Prime Minister know today what his policy is?

Mr. Ferguson—I presume the honorable member is joking. The Prime Minister doesn't propose to be stampered, coerced, or teased into making any statement until the time comes. When I tell you about it I believe it will be a policy that will almost engage your support. But I want to say here that this Government takes no second place to any organization, whether religious, prohibition, or moral, in its desire and efforts to improve the conditions of living in the Province, and in doing what is right with that end in view.

Moves Amendment.

He then moved his amendment to Mr. Raney's amendment. "I wish to move," said he, "seconded by Mr. Henry, that all the words in the amendment after the second word, 'that,' in the first line, be omitted, and that the following be substituted therefor: "This House desires, furthermore, to assure your Honor that it is of the opinion that in the enactment of important public legislation the principle of responsible parliamentary government, on which our British democratic institutions rest, should be observed in order that such legislation should have the undoubted sanction and support of the people, as expressed through their representatives in the Legislature, to the end that all such legislation should possess the authority and support necessary to command the respect and observance of the community."

RELIEF IN TAXATION AND DEBT REDUCTION TOUCHED BY PREMIER

Says Raw Products and Natural Resources Should Make Big Contribution

DEVELOPMENT IN NORTH

Reduction of debt and relief from taxation, according to the Premier in his address in the Legislature yesterday, were two of the big problems of the day. The view of the Government, he said, was that a large share of the revenue should be got from the raw products and natural resources, and that less should be imposed upon the various municipalities. Efforts to stimulate interest in the mining development of the North had, he said, met with great success. There had, he said, been \$10,000,000 more gold produced in 1925 than 1924, and there had been a substantial increase in the output of silver.

Red Lake Development.

Mr. Ferguson continued to say that the Minister of Mines had sent out geologists to study conditions in the North. Reports were brought back he said, and the Red Lake district, which promises to be one of the biggest developments in Ontario, was found by following the directions and information supplied.

Referring to the Lands and Forests Department, Mr. Ferguson spoke of developments in the pulp and paper industries. Newsprint production had stood at 2,600 tons a day. The Government increased the dues and secured \$600,000 revenue. Then transactions were put through to raise the production to 4,500 tons a day, meaning an increased revenue.

There would be an investment of \$80,000,000 this year in the North country, and 14,000 men would be taken on the payrolls. Conditions in timber deals, he emphasized, were that every stick must be manufactured to the finished product in Ontario. All cuttings by private enterprises were to be made under the supervision of expert foresters, who would see that the young timber growth was not damaged. Contracts were for 21 years.

Waiting for More Power.

On the power situation Mr. Ferguson reiterated statement made in the House on Wednesday, praised Chairman Magrath of the Hydro Commission, and declared again that Quebec and Ontario were working amicably for joint development. He spoke of projects on the St. Lawrence and referred to the difficulties in the way. He had no patience with people who "egged" the Provincial Government on to immediate action. Ottawa had to consider the navigation question, and the United States had the say in the projects on that side of the river. But, said he, the Province was always working to advance the projects, and the Government at Ottawa was really giving the matter serious consideration. He also said that power development at Alexandra Falls, in the Nipigon, was under way.