

**Proud of Appointments.**

The Prime Minister entered a rebuttal to the comments of Mr. Sinclair regarding the appointments of defeated Government candidates to the Civil Service since the election. "Let me say to you, Mr. Speaker, and to this House, and to this Province," he said, "that this Government has taken to itself not a little pride and credit for having made appointments which are a credit to this House and Province."

"Would my honorable friend mind discussing the Hamilton appointment?" interposed Mr. Sinclair.

"Not a bit! Not a bit!" replied Premier Ferguson, amid Conservative applause. "But again my honorable friend is going afield, because the appointee was not a defeated Government candidate."

"The Hamilton appointment," he proceeded, "is an appointment for which I have no apology to make, which will be a credit to the office when those surrounding him will give him some sympathetic support and refrain from the captious criticism which is heard in Hamilton. Why not Mr. Garden, the Clerk of the Surrogate Court? Look around Ontario and see how many of those in such positions have legal training! And some of those with legal training are the least fitted for their positions!"

He continued that Mr. Garden had had a long business and office training and, even though ill health had overtaken him, could now continue in the service of the people. "Somebody criticized him because he was once a member of this Legislature," exclaimed the Prime Minister.

In this connection, Premier Ferguson took another shot at Mr. Raney. "How did he get in here?" he asked.

**Educational Matters.**

The Premier then turned to educational matters. "My honorable friend the Leader of the Liberal party, with whom, when I can, I must be serious, attempted a discussion of a few public matters. He displayed an amazing lack of knowledge, which to the members of this House is not surprising. He discussed some of the plans of the Department of Education—our proposal whereby we would carry into the smaller centres and rural sections of this Province greater opportunity and better education for the children of those localities. In other words, we might have a year come off the university courses. That matter is now being discussed seriously because I know public opinion is behind it. My honorable friend apparently did not know that in England they have only three-year courses, and there is no reason why we should not have them here."

Premier Ferguson continued that, by this scheme, it was hoped that the sons and daughters of the poorer citizens of the rural districts could have at least a part of the educational advantages which came to children of richer parents. "The boy who needs education in this country," said the Premier, "is not the wealthy man's son, but it is the poorer man's son, who cannot bear the expense of going to a great centre and living there while he is acquiring his education, and, as Minister of Education, I propose to take it to him."

"Will the first and second years' tuition at the university be discontinued?" asked Mr. Sinclair.

"We are negotiating to carry out this scheme as far as we can do it," said the Premier.

Pressed further by the Leader of the Opposition, the Prime Minister denied that he had said that the second year at the universities would be cut out. It was a matter still to be worked out, he said. "My honorable friend will find that I have never made such a statement," he declared.

**What About Cost? Is Question.**

Mr. Sinclair then wanted to know who would bear the cost of putting this scheme into effect in the local municipalities.

"That, of course, is a matter which must be worked out," replied the Prime Minister. "Whatever those costs may be, it will not cost the man in the local centre anything like the eight or ten hundred dollars a year that it costs in the city."

"The Premier does not understand my question," persisted Mr. Sinclair. "Who will pay the cost in the rural centres?"

"It will be paid for as it is paid for now. It will be paid for by the local municipalities with additional subsidies coming from the Treasury. But it is going to be infinitely cheaper than the present method and with much greater benefit to the people. That is my firm impression."

"My honorable friend," he went on, referring to Mr. Raney's words about the part of Canon Cody and other Churchmen in the election, "transgressed, and transgressed seriously, the ordinary standards of good taste, if I put it very mildly. Why it was necessary for him to attempt to vilify and malign men like Sir Allen Aylesworth, Bishop Fallon and Dr. Cody is beyond me. These men differed from my honorable friend, and differed honestly. He surely doesn't deny their right to assert their views, and evidently the public believed their assertions. Coming from a man who is a leader of a movement, if not of a party, it was an undignified exhibit of petty venom that was unworthy of a man who may sit in this Legislature."

"He attempted this afternoon to say that these men were beguiled and influenced by improper motives to poison the atmosphere in which the younger generation must be reared. What the people said was: 'We're going to be honest with ourselves, get rid of this cant and hypocrisy, and have a law that has behind it the force of public opinion.'

"In the framing of the legislation to be brought down, that will be the principle on which it will be framed. I hope that when the bill does come down my honorable friend will live up to the position he took in his address when he thought that now we should make this the best law possible. That is what this Government wants—views from everybody. When this legislation is brought down there will be no attempt to railroad it through. There will be a free discussion, with the opportunity for suggestions from anybody."

"In this legislation the Government doesn't expect that it will run smoothly. We are not deluding ourselves with the idea that there will be no difficulties."

"I have had letters from temperance organizations, from clergymen who opposed us, even from one branch of the Ontario Prohibition Union, and all express the desire to wait patiently, and give the law a chance to vindicate itself."

"It will undoubtedly be, to a large extent, experimental in Ontario, and will not please every one. What I want from the public is an attitude of tolerance and good-will toward

honest effort to improve things. And if the law is brought down in an atmosphere of that kind it will be a success."