

Tuesday - February - 12th -

FINLAYSON CONFIDENT NEW PULPWOOD ACT HAS PUBLIC SUPPORT

**Action Must Be Taken to
Cut Timber Every Year
as It Matures and to
Eliminate Future Possi-
bility of Overexpansion,
Declares Minister
of Forests**

TWO-YEAR CAMPAIGN LEADS UP TO BILL

When Hon. William Finlayson, Minister of Lands and Forests, moved second reading to his new Pulpwood Supply Act in the Legislature yesterday, he registered another appreciable advance in the campaign which he and his department have waged over a period of two years "to awaken public consciousness" to the actual facts regarding the pulpwood industry in this Province.

In his new act, Mr. Finlayson believes he has the long-sought solution to the preservation of this industry. Much thought, many conferences, and more than 1,000 speeches, up and down Ontario, have gone into setting the legislative stage for it. It was ready for introduction a year ago, but was withdrawn in the belief that public opinion was not quite ready for it. Now, Mr. Finlayson feels, the time is ripe.

No More Mistakes.

While, he states, there is no cause for alarm—in that Ontario is still tremendously wealthy in timber—the hour at last has been reached when action must be taken to put the industry on a "substantial yield basis"—to guard against repetition in the North of the "ghastly mistakes" that were made in Southern Ontario years and years ago—to eliminate future possibility of the "overexpansion" that precipitated the unsettled situation in which the newsprint people find themselves today—and to maintain, generally speaking, the record the industry has established for itself; second only to agriculture in Ontario, and the greatest industrial factor in the Dominion in creating favorable balance of trade with the United States.

Mr. Finlayson spoke to his bill for upward of two hours yesterday, tracing the story of the timber industry from the time when the farmer, looking upon timber as some inexhaustible supply, got rid of it as fast as he could, down to the present moment when big pulp and paper operators are willing to try anything with the Government in order to get the industry on some definite, permanent basis.

"The farmer," said Mr. Finlayson, "was probably our greatest offender in the destruction of timber. Then came the lumbermen, and after all these years I admit we were not a very great success as lumbermen. Governments, I confess, have been short-sighted, too."

But Ontario Administrations have been intelligent, claimed Mr. Finlayson, as compared to the United States. "We have made a number of lamentable mistakes," he said, "but we never made the great mistake that Michigan, for instance, did—in selling whole townships outright for fees."

Timber Like Grain.

The people, said Mr. Finlayson, needed a new point of view about timber. It had to be considered in the same light as grain. To cut wheat in July before it was ripe would be a crime in any farmer's eyes. To cut it in September after it had matured would be an equally great offense. But to cut timber, any time, was all right. That state of affairs had existed for too long. It needed correction.

The "sustained yield basis," which was the chief target of the new act, would, said Mr. Finlayson, mean simply the cutting of timber every year as it matured. Nothing new or startling in that policy! European countries had practiced it for years. One forest in the South of France, 10 years of age, was improving every year under expert reforestation, and, indirectly, contributing \$90,000 annually to the Republic's treasury.

"We must put our industry here on the basis," said the Minister, "where

every company will cut only the increment and balance its production year after year."

Fancy, he said, what the result would have been in Ontario had we years ago adopted the policy with regard to timber that France now follows.

Mr. Finlayson offered a brief explanation of the present muddled state in which the newsprint companies find themselves. Overexpansion, the chief cause, he stated, had been prevalent not only in Ontario and Quebec, but in the United States and Newfoundland as well. The industry everywhere had grown so rapidly that it had been difficult to keep a finger on its pulse.

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Tory Funds Solicited From Liquor Interests; Toronto Group Blamed

**Premier Ferguson, Answering
Sinclair's Queries,
Denies Government Is
Implicated, and Says He
Ordered Return of Contributions**

LONDON WINERY ASKED TO DONATE

Demands by William E. N. Sinclair, Liberal Leader in the Provincial Legislature, that Premier G. Howard Ferguson "clear up" the reports that a Conservative organization had circularized the liquor interests in the Province, and asked liquor, beer and wine men for contributions to its organization, provided a hectic hour in the House yesterday afternoon, and resulted in the Premier telling how the Government had dissociated itself from the letter writing, and in his making public for the first time the story of the whole affair.