

the land, but you have given away the valuable wood upon it. Had these concessions been advertised for sale instead of being given to the friends of the Government I believe that from one to two million dollars would have been raised. Out of these seven concessions given—not including the Clergue concession—only one is being worked to-day, that at Sturgeon Falls, while another at Spanish River is partly under way. Even these two concessions are not being worked by the people to whom the original grants were made. Friends of the Government got these concessions, peddled them to their own advantage and made hundreds of thousands of dollars out of the transaction, all of which should have gone to the Provincial treasury.

Then as to Fisheries. I do not see any payment for rent for these fishing concessions. Nepigon Lake with its white fish and trout is supposed to be a privilege without rival in the world. It is given without competition by Order in Council for a nominal sum of \$15,000 a year and for that sum the Licensees can take out 1,000 tons of fish a year worth \$140,000. This fish could be taken out for \$25,000, so that after paying all expenses and rent there is a clear profit of \$100,000 a year to be made out of that lake, and I have been told that the people who got this concession contemplate turning it into a company at half a million dollars capital. No such concession should ever have been made by Order in Council without open competition. (Applause)

It is the same with the Niagara Power Companies. Power privileges worth from one to two million dollars have been given by Order in Council without competition. And this is not the only way by which the Province is being robbed. We find the Crown Lands Department honeycombed with a system of giving away timber lands to friends of the Government without proper compensation to the Province.

Take the infamous Shannon deal, in which Cap Sullivan got a \$9,000 timber limit for \$250, and divided the spoils with a clerk in the Government office giving him over \$4,000. Then there is the Cane Bros. case where constituents of the Commissioner of Crown Lands were allowed to exchange islands in the Georgian Bay worth two or three thousand

dollars for other valuable concessions. How Mr Davis did not give them the value in money because this would have required a vote of the House, so he gave them a million feet of pine timber on another island twenty miles away which on the evidence of the Assistant Commissioner was worth \$7 or \$8 a thousand standing, so that Cane Bros. got five or six thousand dollars profit out of the deal at the expense of the Province.

There were other cases. Chew Bros. had a limit on Georgian Bay Islands. It was suggested that the timber on these islands should be preserved so as not to mar the beauty of the spot which was visited annually by a vast number of tourists. Some compensation of course had to be given. Chew Bros. got this timber for a few thousand dollars. They were allowed to retain the timber on the largest island and in lieu of the balance they were given one quarter of the whole township of Capreol from which there has been cut some fourteen or fifteen million feet of lumber worth \$4 a thousand standing and they got all this in return for about \$2000 cash and \$8000 worth of timber on their islands. This deal also was engineered by Capt. Sullivan, and Chew Bros. were quite willing to make a deal which would give them some \$60,000 or \$70,000. But Chew Bros. could not get that quarter of Capreol township for that \$10,000 worth of limits and cash until they agreed to sell it to the late Mr. Munro for \$28,000. They were held up and compelled to sell for \$28,000. In justice to the memory of Mr. Munro I will say that at that time he was not a member of this Legislature.

The whole circumstances in connection with this case would not have come out so that we could not have proved that the exchange of these islands was not permitted to be ratified by Order in Council until the limit had been assigned to Mr. Munro had it not been for the kindness of the Minister of Public Works. There were a number of papers in the matter we had not time to examine but we would probably have put them in if we had looked over them. The Minister however unwittingly, perhaps blunderingly, the Attorney General would say, said he would put in the whole lot and there they are in the