years' taxes from this company, instead of the $80,000 the Government had illegally accepted, one may easily estimate the nickel tax that was included in the general profit tax at the sum of $600,000, for the recovery of which the Liberal Opposition and not the Government is entitled to credit.

Similarly, it is interesting to note that in the revenue for the year 1917-18 the succession duty tax yielded $3,157,000. The income from the same source during the last year of the Liberal administration in 1904 was only $450,000. It is rather amusing to have the Government claim credit for a surplus that would not have existed if Providence had not seen fit to take a few of our rich men to himself. But for the act of Providence, the Provincial Treasurer would have had to apologise for an unexpected deficit instead of taking credit for a surplus to which an act of the Government is supposed to have contributed.

Taxation.

One of the resolutions unanimously passed by the recent Provincial Liberal Convention held at Toronto, was as follows:—

> "That this Convention favours local option for municipalities to assess and tax improvements, including buildings, business and income, on a lower basis than land, and that the Liberal principle of raising as much as possible of the Provincial revenues by the taxation of natural resources be hereby affirmed."

This has been the settled policy of the Provincial Liberal Party for years. In the platform of the party in 1911, the principle of Local Option in Taxation was set forth. It was pointed out that the present system under which taxation is levied for municipal purposes has caused profound discontent in the great cities and in New Ontario. In the cities it has been the means of encouraging land speculation, whereby one person improves his property and pays taxes for the benefit of adjoining vacant lots; and in New Ontario speculators are holding unimproved locations until the actual settlers open up the country.

The Liberal platform provides that each municipality shall be given the right to so adjust its system of taxation as to remove grievances such as these, and to depend upon the taxation of our natural resources for the bulk of provincial revenues.