

cast, to be in favor of Local Option before that measure can come into force. When the bill was being passed through the House in 1906, the Hon. Mr. Ross, then Leader of the Opposition, moved in amendment that a simple majority should be sufficient to bring Local Option into force. This was voted down on a straight party vote, save that Mr. Gallagher (Conservative) voted with the Opposition. In the following year, 1907, the Hon. Mr. Graham introduced a bill to provide for a simple majority on the Local Option vote. In 1908, Mr. Hanna having introduced further amendments to the Liquor License Act, it was moved by Mr. Preston (Brant) and seconded by Mr. MacKay on a motion for the third reading, that the bill be referred back to a Committee of the Whole House, with instructions to so amend the Liquor License Act as to provide that a simple majority should be sufficient to introduce Local Option. The Liberal party have, therefore, clearly put themselves on record on this important phase of the Temperance question and have thereby also affirmed their belief that every Government ought to TRUST THE PEOPLE.

#### POWER QUESTION.

Another instance where the Whitney Government refuse to trust the people is in connection with the much discussed Power Question, the full details of which are given under another heading. It may here be noted that the Power Commission absolutely failed to give the people the information required by the Legislation introduced by their own Government; and procured the endorsement of the by-laws in 1907 under conditions which made them all illegal and necessitated the passing of a Government bill in the session of 1908 to validate them. **Undoubtedly these by-laws were presented under circumstances which amounted to misrepresentation and concealment of fact.** Were the Whitney Government afraid, that upon a full, fair presentation of the facts, the people would not endorse their Power policy? At any rate they did not make a fair presentation and once again refused to TRUST THE PEOPLE.

#### AUTOMOBILE LEGISLATION.

From the number of petitions and bills which were presented to the House, it is apparent that very few questions are of greater interest to the residents of the rural constituencies than that of the control of automobiles. In the session of 1908, six bills were introduced, having for their object the further