

majority of 1411, but in the bye-election consequent upon Hon. J. S. Hendrie accepting the office of Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario the majority was reduced to 36. In Dundas Sir James Whitney had a majority of 673. His successor managed to scrape in by 62 votes. Peel was the real black eye for the Government, when James R. Fallis who made a rake-off as intermediary between the Government and the public in the matter of the purchase of horses for the war, was obliged to resign. Peel had given Fallis a majority of 627 in the general election; Peel showed what it thought of profiteering by supporters of the Government, by defeating Fallis at the bye-election and electing a Liberal by a 305 majority. 1916 made the Government particularly nervous, North Perth was wrested from the Government. When the sitting member accepted the patronage of the Dominion Government the Liberals carried the seat by 549, as compared with the Government majority of 1117 in the general election. Hartley Dewart, the present Liberal Leader in the Province defeated the Government wine and beer candidate in south-west Toronto by 551 votes. The late Attorney-General Foy held the seat by a majority of 3686.

During the session of 1917, when the Government sought to give effect to legislation making the various appointments in connection with the Department of Agriculture, (above referred to) the Liberals strongly opposed the measure and introduced an Amendment upon the second reading of the Bill to give it a six months hoist.

The Liberal Amendment was worded as follows:—

"Mr. Parliament moved in Amendment, seconded by Mr. Grieve.

"That all the words of the Motion after the first word 'that' be struck out and the following substituted therefor:—

"In the opinion of this House, the conditions created by the war make increasingly important the demand for efficient leadership and effective administration in the Department of Agriculture, and that the present urgent need is the appointment of a Minister of Agriculture to succeed the late the Honourable Mr. Duff, who is able to devote his whole time to the work of the Department, and who by practical training and experience is able to give leadership in Agricultural matters; and the appointment of a Deputy Minister, who by reason of his technical and practical knowledge of Agriculture, in this Province, is fitted to fill this most important post, and that therefore, the said Bill be not now read the second time, but be read the second time on this day six months."

The Government, however, voted down the Amendment and the Bill was eventually passed.