

not be proceeded with, owing to the objection of the hon member for Bothwell.

Mr MONTEITH thought that they might as well drop the Bill as drop this clause.

Mr BLAKE said the result was, not that the clause would drop, but that it might stand.

Hon Mr CAMERON said the clause was neither struck out nor stands—in fact, it is not here.

The consideration of the clause was then deferred.

On clause 8,

Mr. MONTEITH moved that the word "six months" should be altered to "twelve months" in the fifth line.

Mr. FERGUSON seconded, having prepared a similar resolution.

Mr. GRAHAM (Hastings) moved that the clause be entirely struck out, believing that it was an insult to the intelligence of the people.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON said the object of it was that there should be school houses of a certain capacity, which would be promotive of the health of the pupils. It was necessary that the superintendents should have power to order the enlargement of the school when it was required.

Mr. TROW had an amendment to the effect that the authority of the superintendent should be put into action only on the petition of at least one-third of the rate-payers; and that the time should be twelve, instead of six months. With these alterations he did not think that the clause would be objectionable.

Mr. MATCHETT also proposed an amendment, and

Mr. MONTEITH briefly explained his position.

Mr SINCLAIR thought that if the time was extended as proposed, that there would not be any injurious effects resulting from the proposed clause.

Mr. GALBRAITH considered that, in the majority of cases, there was an earnest desire that there should be good school accommodation, but it was not so in all cases.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON said it seemed to be the idea that the Chief Superintendent had only the desire to get all he could get; but it was absurd to suppose that the officer would call upon a poor district to erect a stone or brick building in a poor district, but such a one as the district could afford.

Mr. CODE thought that the clause, with the alteration of the time, would be one of the best in the Bill.

Mr. PERRY said that he should support the amendment of the hon. member for Hastings.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON said, in England, grants were refused to all schools which were not up to the standard requisite for health.

After some further discussion—

Mr. FERGUSON moved an amendment to the effect that an appeal should stand from the decision of the County Superintendent to the County Judge.

The amendment to the amendment of Mr. Grahame, that the clause be expunged, was put first, and lost. Yeas, 23; nays, 27.

The amendment substituting twelve for six months was then carried.

Mr. FERGUSON moved an amendment that the words "Chief Superintendent of Education" in the last line of the clause be struck out, and the words "County Judge" be substituted. He explained that this change would remove the right of appeal from the decision of the County Superintendent to the Chief Superintendent to the County Judge.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON said this was no legal question. It was simply a question of the suitability or unsuitability of school accommodation.

Mr. BLAKE said the chief difficulty in making the Chief Superintendent the party to whom to appeal, was the inconvenience of bringing all appeals to Toronto. He did not approve of the County Judges, but, if there were no other choice he would prefer them to the Chief Superintendent.

After some further discussion the amendment was carried.

Mr. TROW moved an amendment to the effect that the School Superintendent shall decide as to school accommodation only on a petition signed by at least one-third of the ratepayers resident in the section.

The amendment was carried; and the clause, as amended, was adopted.

On clause 9,

Hon. Mr. McMURR CH moved that the word "two," on the fourth line, be erased, and insert the words "not to exceed five," after the word "persons," on the same line. The effect of the change would be to increase the number of the Board of Examiners.

Dr. BOULTER moved, in amendment to the amendment, that the word "two," in the fourth line, be expunged, and the words "one or more" be inserted instead. This, he explained, would have the same effect as the change proposed by the hon. member for North York.

The first amendment was withdrawn, and the second was carried. The clause was allowed to stand over, to be re-cast by Government.

Clause 10, fixing the minimum salaries of teachers, was dropped.

Clause 11, providing when school sections shall be disentitled to aid from the annual appropriation for special aid to poor schools, and also providing extra aid on the increase of the minimum salary of a teacher, was also dropped.

On clause 12, providing that at the request of a majority of the school sections of a township, the Council of such township may establish a Board of Common School Trustees, a discussion arose.

Mr. FERGUSON objected to permitting the majority to decide the matter. It would be returning to the old system of Separate Schools.

Atty. Gen. MACDONALD said it was really too bad, after all the trouble which had been bestowed on this Act, that the House would not accept it.

Mr BLAKE said, if the hon. member's argument were right, this Bill ought to be received at once; but he (Mr Blake) believed the Bill was left over from last session for the purpose of discussing it thoroughly, and he was glad to see that so far it had been thoroughly discussed. He had voted for

every amendment, and he was pleased to know that they had been carried.

Hon. Mr McCALL (Norfolk) moved that clause 12 be expunged.

Hon. Mr CAMERON said the hon. member for North Bruce had at length reached the novel position of finding himself in a majority. He had reason to be proud of that position—of having opposed the views of a man who had devoted a lifetime to the study of the subject. The hon. gentleman without any knowledge of the subject, and probably without knowing the harm he was doing, had voted for amendments to the Bill, simply because the measure was promoted by the Government. All the amendments which had been introduced, so far, had been moved to preserve the rights of the people—to keep the power in their hands, yet here, when it was proposed to give the majority of the people the right of deciding a question, hon. members still opposed it.

Mr. BLAKE said, with reference to the charge made against him of having advocated changes which he did not understand, he would not reply just now. But, if the hon. member would move to have the clauses reinstated when the Speaker should be in the chair, he (Mr. B.) would be most happy to give his reasons for voting as he did.

After some further discussion, the amendment to expunge the clause was carried.

On clause 13, providing that no School section be recognized after 1870, which shall contain less than fifty resident children, a discussion arose.

Mr. FERRIER moved in amendment, that twenty-five be substituted for fifty in the clause.

The Committee rose and reported progress, and asked leave to sit again to-morrow.

The House then adjourned at midnight.