

Mr. BLAKE—But this is an extraordinary production. (Laughter.) The hon. secretary had quite misapprehended him if he thought that he (Mr. Blake) had proposed to place additional taxation upon the county.

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD condemned the member for South Bruce for criticising the language of the bill, and said it was absurd for him, who knew comparatively little of educational matters, to condemn the measure of one who had devoted his whole life to the cause of education. What did the hon. gentleman know about the cause of education compared with the Chief Superintendent of Education? No doubt the hon. gentleman did not like the composition of the Chief Superintendent. There must be a cessation of these hostilities, and this spirit of opposition that was at variance with sound legislation. He hoped there would be less talk over this Bill, and that the House would perfect the system of education in accordance with the wishes of the Chief Superintendent.

Mr. BOYD said they were again called upon to listen to an uncalled for harangue from the Attorney-General altogether foreign to the subject before the House. What had the member for South Bruce done to justify the remarks of the Attorney-General? The part of the Bill under discussion was a new clause, and the member for South Bruce had confined his remarks to that clause; and some of the supporters of the Government found more fault with these new clauses, and spent more time in talking on them, than did the member for South Bruce. As the Attorney-General had taunted the member for South Bruce with not liking the composition of the Chief Superintendent, he would take occasion to refer to a matter, concerning which he would otherwise have preserved silence. He referred to the letters published over the signature of the Chief Superintendent, addressed to a member of this Legislature. In the name of that body he protested against any paid official of the Crown undertaking to lecture a member of this House, because, in the exercise of the prerogative vested in him by his constituents, he criticized the management of the department to which that official belonged. (Hear, hear.) He had not felt it his duty to be silent on other occasions when the Atty.-General attacked his hon. friend, but these uncalled-for attacks were unendurable. He entertained respect for the Chief Superintendent and appreciated his services to the country in the cause of education, but his services in connection with his department did not give him license to attack any member of the Legislature in the discharge of his duties.

Mr. PERRY was about to address the House, when the members on the Government side commenced to rattle their desks and otherwise create a disturbance.

Mr. BLAKE said that the chief discussion had come from the members on the Government side, and he did warn them that if the disgraceful course now being commenced was persisted in, retaliatory measures might be adopted.

Mr. CAMERON said the hon. member was not guiltless in the matter.

The debate was resumed.

Mr. SINCLAIR thought the House would be responsible for the Bill, and not the rev. framer; and the discussion of it should not be frowned upon by the rev. promoter.

Mr. CAMERON said that the Government had no desire to stop the discussion, but there was no necessity for this altogether unnecessary criticism of every word in the Bill.

Mr. BLAKE said that the criticisms he had made on the clause now before the House had not occupied more than three minutes, and then he had offered a practical suggestion.

Mr. CUMBERLAND attacked Mr. Blake, and said that the expression used by him with regard to the conduct of hon. members was not couched in his usual cautious language.

Mr. McKELLAR regretted that the good spirit which had prevailed throughout the session should have been violated and broken, not by a member on the Opposition side, but by the leader of the Government. As usual, the remarks of the Attorney-General were foreign to the subject in hand. He must deny the allegations of the hon. member for Algoma, (Mr. Cumberland) with reference to the hon. member for South Bruce, (Mr. Blake) No gentleman in the House addressed himself more intelligently to the questions that came before the House. If there was one member more than another

listened to attentively and with edification, it was the hon. leader of the Opposition, who never kept the House a single moment when he was not ready to discuss the question then before the House. (Hear.) There was a determination in the House to make this School Bill as perfect as it could be made, and if the members of the House were to be held responsible for the provisions of the Bill, and not the Government or the Chief Superintendent, there ought to be full opportunity allowed for its discussion.

Mr. WOOD thought that the leader of the Government had been entirely misinterpreted. Any one who had listened to the discussions on the Bill could not but feel that if there had been more action and less talk greater progress would have been made. He had no objection to any hon. member giving his views, but he should not be continually re-stating them.

The amendment was then put and carried, and the clause passed as amended.

On the 37th clause, fixing the conditions upon which Public or High schools may share in the School Fund,

Considerable discussion ensued, and an amendment was proposed to reduce the maximum to \$500, in stead of \$1,000, as proposed.

Mr. CAMERON, after consulting with Deputy-Superintendent Hodgins, who occupied a seat on the floor of the House, said that the limit of \$1,000 was fixed in order to give schools in rural districts a fair chance.

After some further discussion,

Mr. BLAKE moved, in amendment to the amendment, that the apportionment be accorded to the average attendance of pupils.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON said he was willing to accept that amendment.

It was afterwards proposed to raise the maximum to \$400, and to strike out the maximum provision; and this amendment was adopted, and the clause was carried.

The Committee then went back to the 34th clause, and Mr. McMurich having withdrawn his amendment, an amendment was proposed by Mr. Cameron to a similar effect, was adopted, and the clause carried as amended.

On the 38th clause, which referred to the board of examiners for admission of pupils to high schools, and as to admission of pupils,

On the suggestion of Mr. Blake the last sentence in the clause, from the words "upon condition" was struck out as being unnecessary.

Mr. BLAKE said the proposed system of examination was most certainly cumbersome. The present system provided for an initiatory examination, and he was not aware that any inconvenience or deficiency had been found to exist in it. The proposed system would be alike more expensive and cumbersome.

Mr. CAMERON did not think it would prove more expensive, and there existed a necessity for the change proposed.

This clause was carried.

Clause 39, providing that inspectors of grammar schools shall be inspectors of high schools, was carried.

On clause 40, a proviso was added, on the motion of Mr. Boyd, providing that existing grammar school divisions should be high school districts, unless altered by the County Council.

On clause 41, providing that the Lieut.-Governor in Council may confer upon certain high schools the name of "collegiate institute," and give them an additional public grant,

Mr. FERGUSON objected to this, and said that the maximum of the grant having been disposed of, there existed no necessity for the proposal to give the Lieut.-Governor power to make this additional grant. He moved an amendment to this effect.

Mr. BLAKE entirely concurred with these remarks.

Mr. CAMERON said the object of the clause was to favour the establishment of collegiate institutions in the country. These institutes would be required to teach the classics, and would keep up the connection between the grammar schools and the Universities.

After some discussion, the amendment was lost.

Mr. BLAKE raised the point that the clause could not be proceeded with; as involving a charge on the revenue.

Mr. CAMERON said that he intended to introduce resolutions with reference to the

clause before concurrence was asked in it.

Mr. BLAKE said that he would not, under these circumstances, press his objection.

Clause 42 was then taken up, and on the motion of Mr. CAMERON, it was amended to read as follows:—"The Public School Board of each city, town, and village may establish one or more industrial schools for otherwise neglected children, and make all needful regulations and employ the means requisite to secure the attendance of such children, and for the support, management and discipline of such school or schools."

On Clause 43, as follows:—

"Each teacher of a public school holding a certificate of qualification under the School Acts of this Province shall pay into the fund for the support of superannuated school teachers the sum of four dollars annually; and each inspector of schools is hereby authorized and required to deduct one half of such sum semi-annually from any payments made by him to any teacher under his jurisdiction, and transmit the same to the Education Department; provided always that any teacher retiring from the profession shall be entitled to receive back from the Chief Superintendent one half of any sums thus paid in by him to the fund; and provided further that on the decease of any teacher, his wife, or other legal representative, shall be entitled to receive back the full amount paid in by such teacher, with interest at the rate of seven per centum per annum."

Mr. PERRY moved that the clause be expunged.

After some discussion the amendment was put and lost.

Mr. BOYD moved another amendment making the payment voluntary on the part of female teachers.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON accepted this amendment, and the clause, as amended, was adopted.

On the 44th clause, which is as follows:—"The summer vacation in the high schools and public schools throughout the Province shall be from the first day of July until the fifteenth day of August inclusive,"

After some discussion,

Hon. Mr. CAMERON would accept the suggestion (provided the committee were in favour of it) of several members, and amended the clause so as to make it applicable to high schools, only, leaving the vacation in the public schools one month as provided by a previous clause.

The clause thus amended was adopted.

Several members said they had amendments to propose when the committee sat again. The committee then rose and reported progress, and asked leave to sit again on Tuesday.

The House then adjourned at 12.15.