

accounts last year something that would bear upon this matter.

Mr. S. WHITE said they should not talk about the Dominion Government here.

Dr. McLAUGHLIN replied that for the past eight years the Opposition had been

QUOTING THE DOMINION GOVERNMENT

to them and he thought his arguments were fair. In the department of contingencies of the Dominion Government Dr. McLaughlin went on to show there were a number of items which made a total of over \$7,000 under estimated. He found also an expenditure over the estimates in the same department which included Inland Revenue, \$5,035; Postoffice, \$4,000; Department of Agriculture, \$6,004; making a total of over \$32,000 in one department. His hon. friend had spent a large part of the evening telling them what an iniquitous thing it was to have an over-expenditure in the first place, and in the second place telling them that if they had an over-expenditure they should not take the funds from some other purpose. This was the very thing done at Ottawa. He supposed his hon. friend was aware that \$50,000 was put in the estimates of the Dominion Government

FOR SECRET SERVICE.

They had no such thing in this Government. There was an expenditure in various other departments of the Government here, and all for the benefit of the people. The last speaker had said that the drainage debentures were considered.

Mr. CREIGHTON—No; no. You do not know what I was talking about.

Dr. McLAUGHLIN—Well, perhaps he does not know what he was talking about himself.

Hon. C. F. FRASER—Nor anyone else.

Dr. McLAUGHLIN, continuing, said it was claimed the Canadian Pacific Railway ran near the timber limits that were recently sold by this Government, and that this had increased their value. If the Ontario Government sold the timber limits

AT \$5 PER SQUARE MILE,

the price that the Dominion Government sold their timber limits, only \$2,200 instead of \$315,000 would have been realized for Ontario by the sale. Members of the Dominion Government and, he was not sure but some of the gentlemen opposite, had obtained these timber limits from their friends at Ottawa. The Sandfield Macdonald Government seemed to be desirous of accumulating a surplus. The plan of this Government was entirely different. In regard to educational matters, to the maintenance of public institutions, the expenditure was all for the benefit of the people of the Province who wanted to be taxed as little as possible. If the Government continued to do this, when they applied to the people again, the electors would record their confidence in them in the same manner as they had done in the last election. (Applause.)

Mr. CARNEGIE said they were \$40,000 behind now, and they now stood a chance of being much more behind in a short time. The people would have to meet the increased expenditure unless the Government curtailed their expenses. The increase of the license fee would not bring much, for the Scott Act had been carried in many counties, unless the Government continued as they had done in the past in granting more licenses than the number that their commissioners were instructed to grant. They were told that the over-expenditure was a certain amount, but they did not know how much the Government had overdrawn the accounts at the banks. He had found that the C. P. R. ran so near the timber limits recently sold by the Government as to give easy access to all of them. Every stick of timber there was rendered more valuable by the C. P. R.,

GIVING EASY ACCESS TO THEM

all the year round. They were told that the policy of the Sandfield Macdonald Government was to board up and do nothing. He would venture to say there was no Government that ever did so much for the country as the Sandfield Macdonald Government. Everything they had to boast of now had been commenced under that Government. He contended that if the Ontario Government did not appoint stipendiary magistrates for the unorganized territory the Dominion Government would have to provide them. Here was \$10,000 which might be saved. The revenue had suffered severely under the Government. They all knew how the dues had been reduced on a limit in the Parry Sound district on account of fire, which had never been raised. He charged the Government with having sold lands to Mr. Coe for \$1 an acre cash, and the payment not enforced until \$5,000 in interest had been lost.

Mr. BALFOUR said that the state of the finances at Ottawa showed that the Dominion Government did not make any attempt to equalize the estimates and expenditures. Unless it was under the Mackenzie Government,

the increase of the expenditure by the Dominion Government was continuous. The proportionate increase of expenditure of the Dominion Government is far greater than the expenditure of the Ontario Government. The gentlemen opposite, although they said: whither are we drifting, the expenditure should be curtailed, etc., could not point out one case where a dollar could be saved. Gentlemen opposite tried to belittle the surplus, but it could not be successfully attacked. Every dollar of it could be realized if necessary. The Government could go down to Ottawa and negotiate every dollar of their securities. Still, he did not deny that, as matters were now going on at Ottawa, it might be advisable to have a settlement with them pretty soon. (Applause and laughter.) Then they attacked the sales of timber limits, saying that the Government was using up the capital of the Province. Surely it was better to sell these limits and make something out of them, than to leave them to be destroyed! (Applause.) The hon. member for North Grey claimed that we were indebted to the C. P. R. for getting those high prices for our timber. But he forgot to tell the House that Ontario paid fully one-half the cost of constructing the C. P. R. He, forgot to say, too, that Ontario was being

ROBBED OF HER TIMBER

in order to obtain the support of members at Ottawa, and to induce them to vote for this very expenditure on the C. P. R. (Applause.) Then the hon. gentleman objected to the railways being treated as an asset. Now this Province had given \$6,630,000 in aid of railways, and if they could not get it from the Dominion Government while Sir John was in power, they would have justice done to them by a Liberal Government, who would declare that Ontario had as good a right as Quebec or any other Province to be recouped for her expenditure on railways; therefore, they regarded that as an asset. They would also look to the Dominion for an account of the amounts collected by them in North-west Ontario, and they would ask for compensation for the action of the Dominion Government in reference to the timber limits of Ontario. (Applause.) The member for Peterboro' had attacked the Government for the expenditure on the Model Farm. He thought that after his experience of last year he would have been prudent enough to let this institution alone. It was alleged on the opposite side of the House that it was Sandfield Macdonald who put up all the public buildings of the Province. Sandfield Macdonald did not build the asylums at Orillia, Kingston, or Hamilton, the Mercer Reformatory, or the Normal School at Ottawa. All these buildings had been erected by the Mowat Government. The hon. member for Peterboro' was very indignant because the Government paid six or seven thousand dollars to newspapers for advertising. The whole Reform press was being corrupted. Why, last year the Conservative press obtained some \$200,000 from the Dominion Government. The Ontario Government advertised only in papers where the advertisement would be seen by the proper persons. They advertised in papers of all shades of politics. They did not advertise in British Columbia for something that was wanted in Halifax, as the Dominion Government did. The member for Peterboro' found fault with the

EXPENDITURE FOR EDUCATION,

saying that there was too much spent in the mere machinery of the Department. That statement was very plainly contradicted by the items. Out of a total expenditure of \$533,564 there was spent on Public and Separate Schools about \$240,000 or nearly one-half. For poor schools there was spent nearly \$20,000. Did the hon. gentleman object to that item? On High Schools and Collegiate Institutes there was spent \$86,000. The inspection of Public and Separate Schools, Normal, High, and Model Schools cost \$47,000. The effect of this expenditure was to relieve the municipalities of a considerable burden which they would otherwise have to bear. He hoped that the Government would persevere in the course they had undertaken, and that in their expenditure they would be economical without parsimony, for it was better to borrow money than to allow the public service of the Province to suffer. (Applause.)

The House went into Committee of Supply. In Committee, the item of \$1,700 for expenses of Government House was passed. The Committee rose and reported.

The House adjourned at 10:05.