

and he moved to strike them out, his motion concluding:—

"It being in the opinion of this House inexpedient that exceptional legislation with regard to the appointment of examiners or inspectors of Public Schools should exist in the cases provided for in the said sub-sections."

He said never a word, and the Speaker read out the resolution and asked whether it should be passed or not. There was a cry of "No" on one side and "Yes" on the other.

The debate was begun in calm and deliberate fashion by Mr. Ross, the Minister of Education, but as he proceeded he seemed to see more clearly the attack made upon the language of the minorities of the Province, and before he had finished he spoke with indignation which was enthusiastically applauded by those on his side, and gave the key-note to the speeches following on the same side, while it aroused pugnacity on the other side which kept the debate going at a lively rate.

Mr. Ross pointed out that these sections, or at least the second, was introduced in the statute of 1871 by Dr. Ryerson himself. He showed that the clauses embodied privileges which were regarded as of value by the people of French and German origin in the Province. He dwelt upon the fact that they were permissive simply, and depended upon the will of the representatives of the people in the county, and spoke in strong terms of condemnation of the spirit which would fan into flame again the dying embers of race prejudice which had been smothered by the votes of the people at the last election. He pleaded in a fashion which called forth tremendous applause for such fair treatment of the people of all classes as would make them take pride in the freedom of the country in which they lived.

Following the Minister at once came Mr. White of Essex, who also protested against the proposal to remove existing privileges, and for this he was warmly commended by Mr. Balfour, with whom he shares the honor of representing Essex, and who said that coming as they did from a county containing many French-Canadians, they could understand the progress that class were making in knowledge of the English language under existing laws.

Mr. Meredith gave his unqualified support to the motion, but it was in a brief speech, and one of a less declamatory character than last session. He insisted that there should be but one official language in the schools, and contended that by recognising any other the misunderstandings and prejudices existing between the several classes of the people were aggravated and perpetuated.

Mr. O'Connor made a short and telling speech against the amendment, his plea being mainly for the Germans. He cited a fact well known to those who reside in German districts, that children who learn German acquire more readily and more perfectly a knowledge of English. He clinched this by telling of a case of school competition in German in a German district in which the winner of the first prize was an Irish girl.

Then followed Mr. Evanturel. He was a striking instance of the fact Mr. O'Connor had just noted. With him English is a literary accomplishment, and he speaks it in literary style. He has the slightest trace of the French accent, and he makes a slip into the French idiom occasionally, but his periods are more graceful than those of the vast majority whom in speaking English use their native language. There was nothing particularly new in his speech, but the question was one giving scope for oratory, and the defence of his fellow-countrymen by the Minister of Education stirred him to enthusiasm as the attack did to indignation. In the course of his speech he advocated the appointment of a Frenchman to teach French in University College, and in criticising the French which is taught only as an accomplishment, he told a story which, he said, had been told him by a member of the House who lives not a thousand miles from Toronto. It appears that when that gentleman's daughters—having French as one of their accomplishments—were in Paris they were obliged to appeal to the hon. gentleman himself to act as interpreter, the natives being wholly unable to understand them. Mr. Evanturel criticised Mr. Campbell of Algoma, the seconder of the resolution, and advised that gentleman that there might be an election in his riding and that he (Mr. Evanturel) might have an opportunity to be there. He made an oratorical drive or two at Mr. Clancy and Mr. White, who, he said, had in their own constituencies repudiated the narrow and bigoted policy of their leader.

Mr. Miscampbell denied with some indignation the charge that he wished to stir up strife. He expressed his respect for the French-Canadian race, but he strongly contended for the single-language principle.

Mr. Fraser was roused by the use of the words "alien language" in the speech of one of the Opposition members, and taking up the debate he gave the whole of his powerful gift of oratory to the denunciation of this idea and to the declaration that French was a Canadian language, being the European tongue first used in Canada, and one that it was an advantage to anyone to understand. He declared this plea of the unification of language a sham, and one that caused an appeal to race prejudice.

Mr. Clancy took up the case for the Opposition, and accused the other side of being those who tried to arouse race feeling. He said that Mr. Miscampbell had merely moved his resolution without an unkind word, and he denounced the proneness of those on the other side to raise the cry that an attack was being made upon the minority.

Mr. Campbell and Mr. Whitney spoke on the same side, and the debate was closed by a speech by the Attorney-General.

Mr. Mowat in his remarks reminded those on the other side that these clauses were there either through the action of their own party or with their consent. As to the idea that no attack was being made upon the French, his remark was simply that they must have curious notions of what an attack was. He went on to deal with the sections, showing that as to the examiners their appointment was optional and that they acted in addition to the examiners provided for in the other portions of the act.

The division then taken was a notable one, as it gave the Government the largest majority of the session—24 votes. It was upon this question mainly that the Opposition appealed to the electors in June last and here is the answer as shown by the votes of the people's representatives:—

#### Division List.

YEAS.—Barr, Bush, Campbell (Algoma), Campbell (Durham), Clancy, Clarke, E. F. (Toronto), Clarke, H. E. (Toronto), Dunlop, Fell, Glendinning, Godwin, Hammell, Hiscott, Hudson, Kerns, McCleary, McColl, McLenaghan, Marter, Meacham, Meredith, Metcalfe, Miscampbell, Monk, Preston, Reid, Rorke, Smith (Frontenac), Whitney, Willoughby, Wood (Hastings), Wylie—32.

NAYS.—Allan, Awrey, Balfour, Baxter, Biggar, Bishop, Blezard, Caldwell, Carpenter, Charlton, Chisholm, Clarke (Wellington), Cleland, Connee, Dack, Davis, Dowling, Dryden, Evanturel, Ferguson, Field, Fraser, Garrow, Gibson (Hamilton), Gibson (Huron), Gilmour, Guthrie, Harcourt, Hardy, Lockhart, Loughrin, McKay (Oxford), McKay (Victoria), McKechnie, McKenzie, H., McMahon, Mack, Mackenzie, C., Magwood, Moore, Mowat, O'Connor, Paton, Porter, Rayside, Robillard, Ross, Sharpe, Smith (York), Snider, Sprague, Stratton, Tait, Waters, White, Wood (Brant)—56.

#### Ballot in School Elections.

There were other matters to be discussed on the school bill, and when the motion for third reading was called again Mr. Wood (Hastings) rose with a short speech and a shorter resolution in favor of the ballot in Public and Separate School elections in cities, towns and incorporated villages.

Mr. Fraser made a brief protest against the proposal to attach an amendment concerning Separate Schools to a bill dealing with Public Schools, especially so when it was done without notice and in the dying hours of the session. He protested also against the idea of forcing the ballot upon the supporters of Separate Schools against their will. He denounced the contention that the clergy or the hierarchy compelled the votes of Roman Catholics in these elections as they wished, as untrue in fact and as an insult to the clergy and the laity of that church.

Mr. Ross also objected to forcing the ballot upon the Public School supporters, pointing out that the permissive law already on the statute book had been taken advantage of only for 86 out of 5,700 schools. He contended that in this matter they should follow Dr. Ryerson's policy and make this the law only after the people had shown themselves to be in favor of it.

The amendment was defeated by 35 yeas to 53 nays on the following division:—

YEAS.—Barr, Bush, Caldwell, Campbell (Algoma), Campbell (Durham), Clancy, Clarke, E. F. (Toronto), Clarke, H. E. (Toronto), Dack, Dunlop, Fell, Glendinning, Godwin, Hammell, Hiscott, Hudson, Kerns, McCleary, McColl, McLenaghan, Magwood, Marter, Meacham, Meredith, Metcalfe, Miscampbell, Monk, Preston, Reid, Rorke, Smith (Frontenac), Whitney, Willoughby, Wood (Hastings), Wylie—35.

NAYS.—Allan, Awrey, Balfour, Baxter, Biggar, Bishop, Blezard, Carpenter, Charlton, Chisholm, Clarke (Wellington), Cleland, Connee, Davis, Dowling, Dryden, Evanturel, Ferguson, Field, Fraser, Garrow, Gibson (Hamilton), Gibson (Huron), Gilmour, Guthrie, Harcourt, Hardy, Lockhart, Loughrin, McKay (Oxford), McKay (Victoria), McKechnie, McKenzie, H., McMahon, Mack, Mackenzie, C., Moore, Mowat, O'Connor, Paton, Porter, Rayside, Robillard, Ross, Sharpe, Smith (York), Snider, Sprague, Stratton, Tait, Waters, White, Wood (Brant)—53.

#### The Question of Inspectors.

Mr. Meredith proposed that, instead of the inspectors in cities being always under control of the department, this rule should apply only where the Province paid half the salary. But Mr. Ross contended that, as the basis of payment by the Province was the same in cities as in the townships, the mere fact of the municipality paying more was no ground for breaking in upon the advantageous uniformity of the system. This was defeated on a vote of 35 yeas to 53 nays.

The House then rose for recess.

#### Evening Session.

The greater part of the evening was devoted to school questions, but prior to taking these up a number of bills were passed. Among these was the General Mining Act, which was