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forcement. Anyone who desired to could raise questions on any of the topics mentioned in section 3, and either party could call for an arbitration on these topics. Mr. Meredith then asked some questions as to the machinery provided, and Sir Oliver Mowat explained that the Councils of Conciliation and the Councils of Arbitration were separate and distinct, and must not be confused. The former was to be composed of four members, with no Chairman, while the latter will have three, one from each side, and a Chairman. The Council of Conciliation would take up the matter first, and would be a local body, while, in case of failure, the Council of Arbitration, a non-local body, would take the matter up and make a recommendation. Mr. Meredith was inclined to think that the award of the Council of Arbitration should have the force of law, and should be binding, which was not the case in the bill. The effect, he thought, would be that ten employees could raise any question and could drag the employer up before the council and its machinery, entailing on him all the expense and annoyance of such an arbitration, even if the men prove in the wrong. This would harass employers, and might tend to make the act unpopular. It would be better, he thought, to leave disputes to be settled by the natural machinery voluntarily adopted by the parties, than to create an artificial machinery, which might be used unfairly, and which might end in nothing. The fact of there being no force in the award would mean the creating of the machinery and the incurring of expense without adequate result. Voluntary arbitrations between employer and employee would, he thought, be better, and he referred to Lord Rosebery's recent voluntary interference in the coal strike. He thought the award should be compulsory. He hoped the bill would do well, but had doubts.

Sir Oliver Mowat replied that his reading on the subject had satisfied him that the general feeling of the workmen, despite some exceptions, is adverse to a compulsory award. There are in England three carefully-drawn statutes on the subject which are a dead letter because the awards they provide for are compulsory. Sir Oliver also pointed out that Mr. Meredith had been under a misapprehension in thinking that the new councils were to be substituted for voluntary arbitrations: there was no such intention, for the aid of the councils was to be invoked only when voluntary arbitration failed. He reiterated his opinion as to the strength of public opinion in upholding the award. He also did not agree that the machinery was cumbrous, and he demonstrated its practical simplicity.

Mr. A. F. Campbell asked if certain railway orders, such as the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, would be entitled to vote for representatives, and Sir Oliver replied that he thought they would.

Mr. A. F. Wood sympathized with the object of the bill, as everybody would, but doubted very much if this object would be attained by the bill. He saw various dangers in connection with it.

The bill was then read a second time.

THE ESTIMATES.

The House then went into Committee of Supply. They first took up the vote for public buildings, \$221,390.

Hon. Mr. Fraser came into the chamber for a few minutes and discussed the various items, which went through with slight criticisms here and there from the Opposition.

Miscellaneous items in the civil government vote were then taken up, and the sum of \$9,650 was voted, with little discussion, the items being the same as those of last year.

The items for the Department of Agriculture were then taken up, Hon. Mr. Dryden explaining and defending the votes. The amount was \$177,775, a slight decrease from last year's estimate, which was \$189,037. Hon. Mr. Dryden went through the details, discussing first the sums paid to the different societies and the principle of distribution. He took advantage of the occasion to deny the charge that the travelling lecturers are appointed for political reasons, and clearly demonstrated the value of the work done, and the advantage which it confers upon the agricultural interests of the Province. The work and personnel of the Ontario Agricultural College were also discussed, Hon. Mr. Dryden expressing his full satisfaction with the instruction given. The question as to whether the experimental farm should pay came up, and Mr. Dryden reminded the Opposition that very few of the farmers in the whole country are making any money. Mr. Whitney, rather nettled, maintained that the point the Opposition made was not that the farm did not pay a dividend, but that large sums were lost in it. Mr. Dryden's answer to that was that the farm is experimental, and that the cutting up into small plots necessitated by the experiments, together with the accompanying handwork, made profit out of the question. Furthermore, it did pay in the highest sense in the increased and valuable knowledge which is being disseminated.

It being 6 o'clock the Speaker left the chair.

AFTER RECESS.

After recess Hon. Mr. Dryden continued his statement of the expenditure of his department, paying special attention to the experimental dairy and the service done to the agricultural interests of the Province by the instruction imparted by it.

On his closing his account Mr. Clancy rose to reply, the discussion assuming the form of a set debate.

Mr. Clancy assured the Minister that he did not agree with him that the college was above criticism. It was not true that the Opposition had held that the experimental farm should actually pay; what they had contended was that there was a large and needless expenditure there. Mr. Clancy criticized a number of the items of expenditure at the farm, and then made some observations upon the travelling dairy, holding that the instruction was frequently impracticable, and that the results had not been such as alleged by the Minister. Hon. Mr. Dryden's conduct in making political addresses and using his official position next came under review, Mr. Clancy speaking at some length upon this topic, and Mr. Dryden defending himself. Mr. Clancy contended that many of the officials of the college were overpaid in proportion to their capacity for the work they were there to do, and for their experience, etc. Mr. Clancy denied that the Minister of Agriculture was attacked because he was a farmer. That was a very lame excuse. He was attacked because he had conducted the affairs of the farmers so badly. He would not mind twice the amount of money now spent on the college being devoted to that institution if only there were appreciable results, which were not secured at present.

Mr. Dryden retorted that the only results the hon. gentleman was willing to accept were those of dollars and cents, and he would wait a very long time if he waited until they made money out of the institution.

Mr. Clancy said the results in attendance were also a failure.

This was emphatically denied by Mr. Dryden, who said the attendance was never greater than now. Mr. Dryden also denied that the standard of dairying was placed too high for the farmers of Ontario. He said if Mr. Clancy would only visit the college, which he had never done yet, he would learn a good deal more about butter-making than he appeared to know at present. As to the alleged lack of results, Mr. Dryden mentioned as a proof of the contrary an instance in which one lady had profited by the teaching of the Guelph professors through the travelling dairy, and had received three cents a pound more for her butter than had another lady who competed with her, but would not take advantage of the teaching of the professors because they were connected with a Grit institution. Would Mr. Clancy after that deny that results were attained from the dairy instruction in connection with the college? Mr. Dryden then spoke of the attendance at the college, which, in despite of the carpings of the Opposition and its consequent undeserved unpopularity with certain sections, is now larger than ever before.

Mr. Whitney held that the unpopularity of the college was due to the dissension within its walls, and the rumors of it which got outside. He had heard that thistles were grown at the farm to test new means of exterminating them; he would offer as his contribution to the discussion the advice to exterminate them with a hoe. Mr. Whitney then discussed some of the details of the vote, agreeing with the Minister as to the importance of electoral district societies, but blaming him for not making more strenuous attempts to solve the vexed problem of the electoral district and the township societies.

Mr. A. F. Wood admitted that the cheese instruction given at the farm was good, but criticized the management of the electoral district societies. He desired to contradict, so far as his own constituency was concerned, the assertion that the farmers were in desperate need; in his neighborhood they had never been more prosperous, the dairy and cheese industries paying particularly well.

The vote was then passed.

The vote of \$11,100 for repairs, fittings, etc., for the Agricultural College was passed without debate.

In the Legislature last evening about 9.30 o'clock the estimates of the Education Department were reached, and Hon. Geo. W. Ross proceeded to review the various items and the work of the department generally. He said:—

The estimates for educational purposes may be conveniently grouped under four heads:—(1) Grants to elementary schools; (2) grants to secondary schools; (3) grants for the training of teachers; (4) grants for technical education.

The grants for elementary education are divided principally among three classes of schools—Public Schools, Separate Schools and poor schools. There is, in addition, a