

A Drastic Measure Aimed at
Government Officials
Meets Defeat.

PREMIER'S DENIAL

To General Charges Made by
Opposition Members.

ESTIMATES PASSED

For the Department of Agriculture
— Hon. Mr. Dryden Outlines His
Policy—Notes of the Day.

Parliament Buildings, March 24.

The motion for the second reading of Mr. Tucker's bill prohibiting the active engaging of officials in elections under penalty of a fine of \$200 and forfeiture of position for four years provoked a lively discussion in the House this afternoon. Hon. Mr. Hardy pointed out that by a resolution adopted in 1897 the House had put itself on record against active partisanship by officials. With other Government speakers he contended that the employees of the Government as a whole had never been guilty of actions, either at elections or bye-elections, charged against them in a general way by the Opposition. Mr. Whitney and other members of the Opposition claimed that the condition of affairs in Ontario with regard to interference in elections by Government officials was monstrous. Many officials, they said, disregarded the principle of the resolution passed by the House two years ago. The motion for the second reading of the bill