

abling municipalities to adopt a system of proportionate representation was withdrawn, it being deemed too late in the session to discuss a measure of such importance.

Mr. Joynt (Grenville) asked:—Is it the intention of the Government to place a sum in the supplementary estimates for the purpose of erecting a monument in front of the legislative buildings in memory of the Canadian volunteers who have fallen, or may fall, on the field of battle in South Africa in the defence of the empire?

Premier Ross replied:—“This is an important question. It may be premature for us to put something in the estimates this year. It would perhaps be a proper thing to do when the war is over and our volunteers have returned. I think that, having regard to what we have already done, such a proposition would be favorably considered later.”

#### Proportionate Representation.

Mr. Russell (East Hastings) moved the second reading of his bill allowing municipalities to adopt proportionate representation. He declared that the principle was growing in favor and had been adopted with success in certain parts of Australia and New Zealand. A great many of the statesmen in England were also in favor of it. He thought such a principle would render futile the efforts of men to corrupt a constituency.

Hon. Mr. Ross said there had been no practical demonstration of the principle of proportionate representation on this side of the water, although the system had been tried in Australia. At this late stage of the session to undertake to discuss the effect of the application of the bill to the municipal institutions of Ontario would be a rather serious task. Mr. Russell had spoken with his usual persuasiveness and clearness, and had conferred a benefit upon the House by bringing forward the bill. Minorities were not so well represented perhaps as they might be, but he knew of no minority of any description that was suffering any particular hardship under the present system of representation. Next session or at a later period if the bill were introduced early the House might consider to what extent minorities might be benefited by proportionate representation, and the effect it might have upon our representative bodies.

Mr. Whitney, without intending any disrespect to the mover of the bill, referred to the measure as one of the fantastic pieces of legislation which were designed with the best possible intentions for the purpose of ameliorating the condition of the people.

Mr. Russell expressed regret that Mr. Whitney could not discuss questions of interest to the people as a whole without displaying evidences of partisanship.

The bill was withdrawn.

#### Toronto Medical Faculty.

Mr. McKay (South Oxford) moved the second reading of his bill relating

to medical colleges and schools in affiliation with the University of Toronto. He said that for a great many years there had been a good deal of agitation with regard to the medical education of our university. Away back as far as 1853, and prior to that date, there had been a strong feeling that the teaching of medicine in the Province should be entirely free from State aid, and should not be a part of the university. In 1853, therefore, the medical department of the university was abolished. Since that time medical education had been carried on by independent colleges, resulting in a class of medical men in the Province perhaps inferior to none in the world. In 1887 an act passed by the House established one of these colleges as a medical department of the university. The medical colleges affiliated with the university claimed they were not receiving fair treatment, that the university medical department had a preponderance in its number of representatives in the senate and in the examining board. Notwithstanding the high honor of the examiners, they were unfamiliar with the methods of teaching of the other colleges, and students were at a disadvantage. He denied that his measure if carried would in any way impair the usefulness of the university which had done so much for Canada. He admitted the result of the bill would be to abolish the medical faculty of the university, but declared that 24 hours after they saw fit the senate could pass a regulation putting themselves in exactly the same position as now, except in so far as they have certain advantages over the other schools. He denied that the bill would deprive the graduates of Toronto University of electing their representatives to the Senate. The idea was to have fair and equal representation of the medical teaching bodies in the senate, so that the university medical department should not have exclusive control over the curriculum. The proposed change was of far more importance to the Ontario Medical College for Women than it was to Trinity. Mr. McKay denied the statement made in a circular he had received that the medical colleges were inferior in teaching to the university. He objected strongly to the present disadvantage of students of the affiliated colleges, who were prevented from taking as many honors as the students of the university, and also to the regulation requiring the taking of preliminary examinations at the university. In concluding he asked that the bill be allowed to go to committee, where the members could hear the statements of both sides fairly presented.

#### Hon. Mr. Harcourt's Views.

Hon. Mr. Harcourt admitted that the question dealt with by the bill was a most important and complicated one, and pointed out that this rendered it impossible to do justice to the subject at this late period of the session. The speaker was in no sense antagonistic to any school or college. In his position his sympathy must go out to every agency in the Province that was doing a good and useful work, and the institution for which Dr. McKay had spoken was performing an excellent and use-