

It was self-evident that the university could not benefit people who were uneducated. The great majority of the children of the country would never enter a university. Therefore, to say that the first thing to do to improve the education of the people was to improve the university education was contrary to reason and common sense and the experience of the world. The wish of the people was not to minimize the power of the university, but to enlarge and broaden the facilities and powers of the public school system. He was confident he had the majority of the people behind him when he made this statement.

Mr. Whitney went on to say that Mr. Harcourt, as a Minister of the Crown, had done a brave thing in declaring what his views were with reference to aiding the university. In the event of the Government not taking that position, Mr. Harcourt would have to resign. That was the constitutional alternative under our system. He had no doubt his hon. friend (Mr. Harcourt) was taking the position the Government intended to take in the end.

**The Educational Links.**

Mr. Harcourt repeated that it was a truism that to strengthen the universities would be to strengthen the whole system. Their first thought and consideration were the public schools. The graduates of German universities by hundreds and thousands were teaching elementary schools.

Col. Matheson—You won't let them do it here.

Mr. Harcourt replied that they taught here in the continuation classes. The constitutional point had been nicely drawn by his hon. friend. They were all agreed as to the needs of the university, they were all agreed that they wished to the best of their ability in a timely way to aid every institution of learning. No constitutional point could be raised, as there was no difference of opinion in the House as to the position he took.

Mr. Whitney—If there is no difference of opinion, then my hon. friend's colleagues agree with him?

Mr. Harcourt—Are my hon. friends opposite willing to grant the aid which the university asks?

Mr. Whitney—I will answer that as soon as he answers me. I urge him now, does he mean that we are to understand there is no difference of opinion between himself and his colleagues, and that the aid asked for by the University of Toronto shall be given?

Mr. Ross—That is a different question altogether.

**Government Is a Unit.**

Mr. Harcourt—There is no difficulty in answering such a question. The Government is a unit on the question, and hope that the whole House will endorse us in aiding the university.

Mr. Whitney—That is not an answer. The Minister is getting himself in an uncomfortable position. Does he mean that his colleagues are agreed that the aid asked for the University of Toronto shall be granted?

Mr. Harcourt—My answer to that is this: That so far as I know there is no correspondence on the question—

there is no definite request. In a few weeks, I understand, a definite scheme is to be formulated, setting out the requirements of the university. We will deal with that as with other matters. We will give what we can. We are answerable to the people. It is my hon. friend's duty as it is my duty to so argue to the people that they shall support it, that this House will be a unit, marching all one way in the attempt to build up our educational institutions. He would not seek to drag the trail of party over educational discussions. I do not think he seeks to do that. I do not believe he has any thought of doing that, and therefore I am emboldened to say that we are a unit in this House in our hope and wish that we will be able to give reasonable aid to the authorities of the university. (Applause.)

Mr. Whitney—We will look forward with the greatest possible pleasure to the time when my hon. friend will be able to answer my question. Then I will answer his question. (Opposition applause.)

The motion for the correspondence was declared carried.

**To Meet Promptly.**

The Premier asked that members of the House assemble promptly at 3 o'clock in the afternoon and 8 o'clock in the evening. It was often the case that through lack of a quorum commencement of sessions was delayed until 3.30 and 8.30. Promptness would expedite business, and enable them, he hoped, to get through before the Easter holidays. Mr. Whitney expressed hearty concurrence in the suggestion.

The House adjourned at 5.05.

**Bills Introduced.**

Mr. Crawford introduced a bill asking that the money spent by the City of Toronto in receiving members of the South African contingents, sales of land for taxes held prior to 1899, and certain by-laws, be validated.

Mr. Hill introduced a bill providing that school inspectors be instructed to inspect voluntary schools when requested by trustees, and that authorized text books be used and certified teachers be employed in such schools having an average attendance of twenty pupils.

Mr. Wardell reintroduced his bill providing that citizens of countries which have alien labor laws against Canada be not employed on our public works.

**Private Bills Committee.**

The Private Bills Committee yesterday approved of and reported upon the following bills:—An act authorizing the officials of Christ Church, Hamilton, to sell a portion of land adjoining the church and formerly used as a cemetery. A bill empowering the Town of Petrolia to raise \$18,000 to meet floating liabilities, and the bill giving power to the Synod of the Diocese of Huron to provide for the election of select vestries or boards of management. The committee also passed an act respecting the Supreme Court I. O. F. In regard to the latter Mr. W. H. Hunter, solicitor for the I. O. F., explained that by act of the Dominion Parliament in 1889 the powers