

of a Legislature going to work in such a roundabout, cowardly way to reach a desired end. The Premier had said they could repeal the clauses if they wanted to, but to pass them now and then repeal them would be a dishonorable thing. The School of Mining was deserving of aid, but where was the need of such a tortuous and crooked way of arriving at a conclusion?

House Has Control.

Hon. Mr. Harcourt said that there was no tortuous way or dealing. The question had been fully discussed in council, carefully and deliberately, and to anyone who could read English the resolution was perfectly plain and clear. The Government would watch the needs of the School of Mining from time to time, and aid it further if required.

The Premier reminded the House that notice of the amendment had been published in the votes and proceedings of the previous day.

Mr. Carscallen (East Hamilton) contended that the grant should be limited to, say, five years. He was heartily in favor of assisting the school.

Col. Matheson (South Lanark) said that, under the clauses of the bill, instead of being an annual grant of \$6,000, it was a straight grant of \$200,000. He did not object to the aid to be given, but he did protest against the manner in which the question was brought down the day before the House was supposed to adjourn.

Hon. Mr. Gibson said that if all measures were to be discussed at length it would be better to have an understanding that the House would be in session for a week or two longer, a statement which was greeted with loud applause by members on both sides of the House.

Rules Complied With.

The Premier contended that all the rules and Parliamentary procedures had been followed in giving notices of the resolution. He vigorously protested against any insinuation that he had attempted to conceal anything. As a matter of fact, he had endeavored to be as clear and explicit as possible.

Mr. Whitney considered that his hon. friend seemed desirous of avoiding the straightforward English way of dealing with the question. No good explanation of the manner in which the resolution had been brought down had yet been given by the Premier or other Government members.

Hon. Mr. Gibson said no clauses could be more direct, simple, plain or self-explanatory than those in the bill. The leader of the Opposition was making considerable noise over a small matter, and overlooking the main issue.

Erection of Buildings.

Mr. Foy said that there was no word on the bill making it compulsory on the school authorities to erect buildings, or to continue the existence of the school. The school would also have powers to mortgage grants, and place the obligation to meet the responsibility upon the Government.

The Premier thought that the Province was sufficiently well protected under the clauses as to visitatorial powers of the Lieutenant-Governor, and the fact that no money would be paid unless on order in Council. The Gov-

ernment would be fully advised as to all that was going on in the school, and whether the grants were being made good use of.

A Crying Evil.

Mr. Whitney said he understood this grant to be an advertisement to the financial world that the House would recoup the mortgagees of the school under any circumstances. He protested against bringing in such important matters in the closing hours of the session. It was a crying evil.

Mr. Carscallen (East Hamilton) said the objects and purposes of the school were not defined, and there was no security that sectarian instruction might not be imparted.

Hon. Mr. Harcourt said the bill provided clearly against that.

The committee reported progress.

Those Questions and Answers.

Hon. Mr. Gibson moved that the following rules be adopted as part of the rules, orders and forms of proceedings of the House:—

"Rule 39 (a) Such questions and the replies thereto shall be in writing and shall be entered in the journals.

"Rule 29 (b) Whenever any question requires by way of reply thereto any statement of facts or records of statistics of a lengthy or voluminous nature, or other material which in the opinion of the Minister whose department is concerned should be made the subject of a return, the Minister may, instead of answering such question, require a motion to be made for a return.

"Rule 33 is hereby amended by adding thereto the following:—'No motion shall be prefaced or preceded by recitals or preamble.'"

Mr. Whitney Suspicious.

Mr. Whitney declared that these rules put it within the power of the Ministers to burk any question that may be asked, and that the House would be in a worse position than they were before.

Hon. Mr. Gibson pointed out that all sorts of matters now presented in the shape of motion for returns might be put in as questions in order to get them recorded. He suggested that the words "with the consent of the House" be inserted after the word "Minister."

The Premier said he never knew the Government to decline to answer any question that could reasonably be asked.

The motion was carried as amended.

Calls Trading Stamps a Fraud.

When the House took up Mr. Graham's bill allowing municipalities to prohibit trading stamps, Mr. Carscallen (East Hamilton), declared that the House should take up the question in earnest, and declare definitely whether this business of trading stamps, which he characterized unreservedly as a fraud, should or should not exist.

Mr. Graham (Brockville), said in some localities the people were against