

cussed, and he, therefore, moved the adjournment of the debate.

The House rose at 5.40.

Mr. Pettypiece introduced a bill to amend the act for making better provision for keeping and auditing municipal and school accounts; Mr. Harcourt, to amend the public school act; Mr. Russell, respecting the Kingston, Portsmouth & Cataraqui Railway.

Mr. Matheson will move that the return of payments made by banks to employees of the Consolidated Lake Superior Company be referred to the Public Accounts Committee.

Mr. Matheson will also move that the reports and accounts of the Temiskaming & Northern Ontario Railway Commission be referred to the Committee on Railways, with power to send for persons and papers and to take evidence.

Inspectors' Salaries Increased.

Hon. Mr. Harcourt's bill respecting public schools provides for increasing the pay of public school inspectors. The inspectors have had no increases since they were first appointed thirty years ago, and their qualifications have been extensively raised. Not a few graduates of high standing are among their number. More and more duties have been assigned to them from year to year. Last year, in order to meet their views, the department made an arrangement with the county Councils, to give by way of travelling allowances a sum of not less than \$150 with special reference to cases where the number of schools inspected exceeded fifty. The bill now introduced provides an addition to the salaries of \$1 per school up to the limit of 120 schools, to be paid by the Government, and another \$1 to be paid by the county Councils. This will make an addition of \$240 a year for all inspectors who have 120 schools. Another section of the bill gives power to the Education Department to reduce the number of model schools. Last year there were model schools with an attendance of less than twelve. The department will now insist that the attendance shall be reasonably large. There is no reason, the Minister of Education thinks, why there should be more than one model school in any county, and as a matter of practice, in some cases, one for every two or three counties has been found sufficient.

Hon. Mr. Harcourt's high school act is of a permissive nature, enabling a board to collect at its discretion from parents a sum not exceeding twenty cents per month, to defray the cost of text books and other supplies. There are two advantages of such a course in the mind of the Minister. The scholars will obtain the books at considerably reduced prices, the board buying directly from the publishers. At the first day of each term every scholar will have the books needed, and will not wait, as is so often the case, one or two weeks, or even longer, to his own injury and the injury of the class.
