

BUDGET DEBATE CONCLUDES TO-DAY

Opposition Will Not Call for a
Division.

BOTH LEADERS TO SPEAK.

Hon. A. G. Mackay Will Move
to Amend Power Act.

Hon. Col. Matheson Returns to His
Seat in the House—Lively Incident
Over "Sheeny Irishmen" Remark
Mr. Reed Was Said to Have Made
—Labor Member Criticizes Immig-
ration Policy.

The party leaders will wind up the Legislative budget debate to-day. Mr. Allan Studholme, the Labor man, who held the floor when the House adjourned yesterday, will proceed when the House meets at 2.30 this afternoon. The Premier stated that it had been planned to conclude by six o'clock, but he now feared that another night session would be necessary. This is taken as significant that Hon. A. G. MacKay and himself will both speak at some length. The Opposition will not, however, divide the House at the present time.

Hon. Mr. MacKay placed upon the order paper last night notice of bills to amend the Power Commission and the Power Commission Amendment Act of 1909. The Liberal leader stated, when interviewed, that he was not prepared to make public the character of the measures until their details had been more fully worked out. There was, however, nothing radical in either.

The Gillies' Limit Again.

Mr. D. J. McDougall (East Ottawa) has given notice of motion for a return showing:—(a) What is the area of the Gillies' Limit? (b) How much of the area has been reported to the Government to be mineralized? (c) How much of the area has been prospected? (d) How much of the area has been sold? (e) What are the dates of the respective sales, the amount sold in each case, the names of the purchasers and the prices obtained in each case?

Hon. Col. Matheson Returns.

Hon. A. J. Matheson, the Provincial Treasurer, took his seat in the House for the first time since his accident. His arm and shoulder are still bound up, but he was given an enthusiastic reception from both sides of the House. His desk was beautified by a profusion of flowers.

In response to questions from the Liberal leader, Hon. Dr. Reaume, Minister of Public Works, stated that, while no general survey had been made, a drainage system in co-operation with the project of road-making in the Fort Frances and Rainy River district had been decided upon. No survey had, however, been made as to the practicability of constructing a through trunk colonization road from Port Arthur to Fort Frances and Rainy River.

Educational Matters.

Mr. Wm. Proudfoot (Centre Huron)

secured an order showing the number of permits and extensions granted to public school teachers during the years 1908 and 1909 and details concerning the experience and age of the recipients.

On motion of Hon. A. G. MacKay, the House passed an order calling for information as to the number of teachers who were granted model and normal school certificates during the last four years.

"Get After the Combines."

Resuming the Budget debate, Mr. Sam. Clarke (West Northumberland) congratulated the Provincial Treasurer on his return to the House. He was glad to note that the revenue was steadily increasing—it needed to at the rate expenditure was mounting. He hoped there was something in the intimation that other sources of income were taxable.

"Get after the combines," urged Mr. Clarke. "Some check—substantial and effective—should be put upon their operations."

"And the Attorney-General should get busy," he proceeded. "If he would round up a few of these sharks who traffic in stocks and rob the people of their hard-earned money he would be doing one of the best acts of his life."

Proceeding, Mr. Clarke urged increased progress and development along the lines of agriculture. One million dollars was not too large a sum to devote annually to this department. He urged an extension of the demonstration and education policy in relation to the yeomanry of the Province.

The school book contract was characterized by the speaker as "the worst proposition yet." It was an injury to every local merchant. "If you propose to deliver the business of the Province on a silver platter to a departmental store you will leave the whole country desolate, woe-begone and God-forsaken."

Mr. Donovan Waxes Sarcastic.

"There is a poverty of clean-cut criticism in the hon. member's remarks," declared Mr. A. E. Donovan (Brockville) in rising to continue the debate. "He has told us that he was bitten by a dog. Well, it strikes me that there is a little bit of hydrophobia in him, judging from his remarks."

"Muzzle him," suggested several Conservative members, amid laughter.

"My honorable friend has said he would like to be Minister of Agriculture," said Mr. Donovan. "That is one of the truest statements he ever made on the floor of this House. I have no doubt he would like to be Minister of Agriculture. But I fear it will never be in his lifetime or mine, unless he changes over to the other side of the House."

Might Have it Then.

"Could I have it then?" asked Mr. Clarke, and the Government members did not join in the laugh that followed.

Mr. Donovan went on to criticize Mr. McEwing for remarks he was said to have made about the farmers of the Province using the expression "poor and hard-up."

"Mr. Speaker," objected Mr. McEwing, "I never said the farmers were poor and hard up."

Mr. Donovan hesitated, and then accepted the correction.

The Labor Member.

Mr. Allan Studholme, the Labor member, spoke for an hour and had still lots in reserve when he moved the adjournment. He said that in all the speeches during the two weeks of the debate, not one word had been said for the laboring man. Mr. Studholme objected to the statement that 75 per cent. of the people of the Province were agriculturists, and claimed that the balance was in favor of the artisan. He scored the Government for the large amounts of money they had spent on various projects, while almost entirely neglecting technical education.

"If you can get some of the young farmers in the city back to the farms, God speed you. It would give a chance to some of us artisans," declared the Labor member, in urging the Government to take hold of the problem of putting people upon the land.

Criticized Emigration Policy.

Mr. Studholme criticized the Minister of Agriculture for the mystery

that shrouded the work that was being done in connection with immigration. He said that at the last session he had asked for a return showing how many emigrants had been brought out from Great Britain and Ireland, and how many had been placed on farms in the Province, but, although he had asked the Minister of Agriculture for the information time after time, he had not received it.

Hon. Mr. Duff—Does my hon. friend say that the return was never produced?

Never Received Returns.

"I know this," insisted Mr. Studholme, "that I have never received it."

"Well, all I can say," said the Minister, "is that as soon as the return could be compiled it was laid upon the table of the House."

"When was the return tabled?" demanded the Labor man.

Hon. Mr. Duff—I am not in a position to say when. The Minister then read from the sessional reports, showing that the return had been tabled. "The hon. member should have been in the House when it was tabled," he added.

Mr. Studholme, in accepting the explanation, remarked that if he was not in the House, the Minister might have informed him that the return had been presented.

Victim of Poor Acoustics.

After Mr. Studholme had moved the adjournment of the debate, Mr. Reed (South Wentworth) rose and drew the attention of the Speaker to an article appearing in one of the newspapers. The article said that the Irish members of the Legislature were wrathful at a statement Mr. Reed was said to have made in the House during the debate on Tuesday night, in which he compared the alleged unscrupulous character of the Hydro-electric Commission's agents to "Sheeny Irishmen." The article also said that Mr. Reed would probably be asked for an apology.

"I have no apology to make," said Mr. Reed. "I never used the expression mentioned, nor did I use the words Ireland, Irish or Irishmen, or in any way refer to them. I did use the expression 'Sheeny' iron merchants or iron men. The newspapers did not do this with intention. The words are similar in sound, and I hope they will set this matter right."

Mr. Downey Takes a Hand.

But the incident was not closed