

MUST NOT REMIT TAX.

PREMIER WHITNEY ANNOUNCES GOVERNMENT POLICY.

No Interference With School Taxes to be Permitted—Liberal Leader Introduces Amendment to Education Act—Short Sitting of Legislature.

Following the clash in the Private Bills Committee yesterday morning, when members vigorously arraigned the position of the Chairman, Hon. I. B. Lucas, who declined to report measures seeking to give municipalities power to bonus until the Government had been consulted, Sir James Whitney made an announcement at the opening of the Legislative sitting in the afternoon.

The view of the Government as a matter of policy, the Premier explained, was that no authority should be given to enable municipalities to fix exemptions or lower the assessment on school taxes. Other privileges could be granted on a two-thirds vote of the ratepayers.

"There is no doubt in the mind of the Government," said the Premier, "that the people will not submit to any interference with the school taxes, and it will not consent to any legislation interfering with them, unless in cases so unusual as to be entirely anomalous."

Hon. A. G. MacKay, the Liberal leader, gave notice of a bill to amend the Department of Education act. By his measure Mr. MacKay seeks to change the system under which Government grants are apportioned to the public and separate schools from the present plan of giving according to population to a plan of paying according to the number of teachers employed. In this way an impetus will be given to the betterment of the schools.

The sitting was a typical week-end one. For a short period the House delved into the work of statute revision, while a few of the private bills on the order paper were advanced a stage in their legislative career.