

# BUDGET DEBATE STILL GOES ON

## Night Session Fails to Clear Way for Leaders.

## LIBERALS HAD MAJORITY.

## Government Members Wearied and, Left Chamber.

**Four Liberals and Three Conservatives Took Part Yesterday—Member for South Wellington Makes His Maiden Speech—Hon. A. G. MacKay Wants Information About Hydro-electric.**

Less than thirty members, lounging about in attitudes of weariness, remained in the Legislative chamber last night, when the debate on the Budget, after dragging on all afternoon and evening, reached the adjourning point again. The Government, impatient at the way the debate was taking up the time of the House, had decided upon a night session to clear the way for the leaders on Tuesday. But it was not to be. Not one of the speakers took up less than an hour and at 10.30 the House adjourned.

### Liberals Had a Majority.

At one stage of the debate the members on the Government side particularly—became so tired that the chamber held scarcely a score, and the Hon. A. G. MacKay, for the first time perhaps since Conservative Government came into power, had a majority. While Mr. Valentine Stock was speaking, the Government forces dwindled to ten, while eleven Liberals remained in their seats:

During the day seven speakers took part in the debate, Mr. R. J. McCormick of Lambton, began, being followed by Mr. J. Ranson Howitt of South Wellington, who made his maiden speech. The others were Messrs. Dan Reed of South Wentworth, J. A. Ross of Monck, J. C. Elliott of West Middlesex, W. D. McPherson of West Toronto, and Valentine Stock of South Perth. Mr. Stock moved the adjournment of the debate.

There are still several members desirous of being heard, which means that Hon. A. G. MacKay and Sir James Whitney will hardly speak before Wednesday, unless the debate is gone on with Monday.

### Robert John McCormick.

When he got to his feet to continue the debate the little member from Lambton had to wait—as he always does—until the members tired of pounding their desks. Then he went right for Grigg, the member from Algoma, who preceded him.

"He did remarkably well," remarked Mr. McCormick, "if you let him have his own way. He showed that this crowd of ours amounted to nothing at all, that the Government before was no good whatever—but," and here Robert John squared his shoulders, "that stirs up a little Irish in me. I say, that if it had not been for the late Government's work on the boundary he would have been out of the Province altogether. And I don't know if it would have mattered very much," he added, while the members roared with laughter at the sally.

Mr. McCormick took a rap at the Provincial Treasurer for running up

his expenditures, and hoped that the money was being properly used. He paid a compliment to Hon. A. G. MacKay for the amount of work he did.

"It puts me in mind of a County Council I used to be in," he remarked. "Another man did all the work and I had a little fun running around. That's the way it is now."

### Give Back the Model Schools.

The veteran Liberal then turned his attention to his favorite subject, the model schools. "They say," he said, smiling, "'Oh, it's time for McCormick to drop it.' I can't drop it. I feel that it is too important a matter for the whole Province for me to drop it. The poor people can't get their young ones educated as they used to. They are leaving the farms and going to the cities or to the west."

"As fair-minded men," he continued, addressing the front benchers, "I want you to do something. Call it something else, but give us something similar to the model schools so that the poor classes of people will get educated."

Mr. McCormick declared that many teachers were without certificates, and gave a number of instances in his district where the teachers had come right from the high school. He warned the Minister of Education that if something was not done the House would look different after the next election.

### The Grits and the Tories.

"If you don't," he declared, "that first aisle won't divide the Grits and the Tories. We'll run right to the other end of the House. And remember that," he wound up, waving his hand at Hon. Dr. Pyne.

Mr. McCormick sent the House into hysterics by the way he handled J. Wesley Johnson's suggestion that the department bring out teachers from the old country.

"I tell you it won't do," he shouted. "You'll bring out Irish and Scotch and English and French, and they'll all want to use their own language. The Irish will want their own. The Scotch will want Gaelic and the French will want French. That"—and the little member became eloquent—"will never do in an English-speaking country like we have. We want only one language in our public schools." This was the signal for a general laugh at G. H. Ferguson, the author of the bilingual resolution.

### People "Worked Up Terribly."

Mr. McCormick declared the people were "worked up terribly" over the assessment act, and urged that taxes be placed on land instead of improvements, and closed by urging the Government to go on with its immigration work.

### Mr. Howitt's Debut.

In his maiden speech, Mr. J. Ranson Howitt (South Wellington) paid a graceful tribute to Mr. McCormick's hold on the affections of both sides of the House. He proceeded to criticize the various "deficits" reckoned up by the speakers on the Opposition side, and he thought the Opposition members had "no kick coming" against the present educational system, if the result of the former system was fairly shown in their "befuddling" of the accounts and "murdering of the 'rule of three.'" He expressed his opposition to the reciprocity treaty as the thin edge of continentalism, as opposed to that nationalism Canadians loved to cultivate, and because he "feared the Americans even when bearing gifts."

### Gillies Limit Transaction.

Mr. D. Reed (South Wentworth) claimed that anything the former Government had done would stand comparison favorably with the way the present Government had dealt with properties in the Gillies Limit. Assertions as to the Liberals giving fine lands away to their friends were merely assertions, had not been proved, and could not be. The Gillies Limit properties should have been advertised in every commercial centre, not only in this continent, but in Europe, and more time should have been