

given for investigating the worth of the limit.

Poor Educational Policy.

Mr. Reed further attacked the educational administration of the Government. Trustees, he said, had been compelled to buy books out of their own money as supplementary readers.

He scored the Provincial Secretary's Department for bringing over American detectives in the Cobalt liquor cases. He favored the raising of salaries of civil service employees, but thought there were a great many more people employed about the Parliament buildings than necessary. He suggested the wisdom of the Department of Agriculture giving more attention to the San Jose scale, and to methods of packing and shipping fruit.

Waving the Flag.

Mr. Reed was followed by Mr. J. A. Ross of Monck, who went over much the same ground as the preceding Government speakers. He put up a spirited defence of the Department of Education and declaimed about the "flag which has braved the battle and the breeze for centuries after centuries."

It remained for Mr. Ross to defend Hon. J. S. Duff, Minister of Agriculture, against charges made against him of bringing politics into his department. He answered the charges by declaring that the previous Government had done nothing else but bring politics into its Administration. The member for Monck vigorously opposed the reciprocity treaty, and ran foul of Mr. Reed by declaring that the member for Wentworth was going down to Ottawa with a deputation of fruit men to protest against the agreement.

Hon. A. G. MacKay will on Monday ask for a return showing:—(a) The municipalities which have entered into contracts with the Hydro-electric Power Commission for a supply of power; (b) the amount of power contracted for by each such municipality; (c) the names of the municipalities to which power is now actually being supplied, with the date upon which power was first supplied, the amount of power now supplied, and the amount of power actually used or sold by each such municipality; (d) the actual amount for which such municipality being supplied with power has become liable to the Commission, and the date from which such liability runs.

Criticism for Railway Board.

Mr. J. C. Elliott took up the debate when the House met again. He defended the reciprocity agreement, declaring his readiness to trust it to the Government which had done so much for the Dominion.

The Ontario Railway and Municipal Board came in for some severe criticism from the member from Middlesex. He contrasted its unpopularity with the general approval of the Dominion Board of Railway Commissioners.

Referring to the act introduced by Sir James Whitney to place under the control of the Ontario Railway Board all electrical power companies, Mr. Elliott said that that bill had been allowed to stand as a result of the protests of many prominent citizens.

"They protested," he declared, "against giving that tribunal any further powers whatever. Mayor Geary and members of the City Council, I am told, called on the Prime Minister and made such a protest. Some of the Toronto members of this House also interviewed the Prime Minister, protesting against any extension of the power of that tribunal."

Board Should be Replaced.

"Now," continued the member for Middlesex, "if the Prime Minister and the Government have confidence in the Ontario Railway and Municipal Board they are the proper tribunal to settle disputes between electrical companies. If, however, the Government have not confidence in that tribunal it should be replaced by some board in which they have confidence."

Mr. Elliott criticized the Department of Education and its new textbooks. He found fault also with the Government's policy in expending so much money on the University of Toronto and neglecting the other universities of the Province, pressing the

claim of the London University to consideration.

The High Cost of Living.

Mr. W. D. McPherson came next. He deprecated what he termed the efforts of the Opposition to put class against class. The Government was criticized for not giving the farming industry enough, and fault was found with the Government's generosity to the Provincial University.

Mr. McPherson launched into a discussion upon the high cost of living, partial responsibility for which he placed upon the shoulders of the Dominion Government. He read a mass of figures to show the increases in the past ten years. The Government, he declared, had done nothing to alleviate conditions other than to enact the Monk bill, which aims to prevent combines. He criticized that act as being unworkable, and hoped that the Ontario Government would not allow the matter to drop, but would appoint a committee of members of the House to carry on an investigation into the high cost of living. He wound up by supporting the

Provincial Treasurer in his attack on the reciprocity agreement.

Education Department Criticized.

Mr. Valentine Stock went into the record of the Government on educational matters, contrasting the conditions under the Liberal regime with the unsatisfactory state of affairs existing now. He criticized the Government for doing away with the Model Schools, and hoped that steps would be taken to replace them, and put an end to the serious scarcity of teachers in the Province.

Against Tax Exemptions.

Mr. Nickle of Kingston has given notice of a bill to amend the assessment act. The bill proposes to do away with all exemptions on property owned by charitable institutions which is tenanted and revenue-producing.

Presentation to Mr. McDougal.

After the 6 o'clock adjournment the Liberal members gathered in Hon. Mr. MacKay's room to present his lieutenant, Mr. D. J. McDougal, member for East Ottawa, with a cabinet of silver, in view of his approaching wedding. He is to be married on Thursday next to Miss Rosamond Chadwick of Ottawa, in St. Joseph's Church in that city, the ceremony being conducted by Rev. Father Murphy, rector of Ottawa University.