

of the total expenditure now than it did from the former Government.

The scarcity of teachers was gone into thoroughly, and the speaker showed that in the riding of one Government member, who had declared that there was nothing wrong with the educational system, 31 teachers out of 74 were not properly qualified.

"Twenty-five per cent. of the rural schools in this Province have unqualified teachers," declared Hon. Mr. MacKay. He ridiculed the proposal made to bring teachers out from the British Isles, and also the reason advanced by Mr. McGarry that university students were going to the west, as if university students ever went back into the townships to teach anyway.

"My honorable friend from Renfrew," remarked Hon. Mr. MacKay, "is trying to qualify for a position in the Department of Education. If he wants to qualify he must show that he knows nothing about the department," at which there was a general laugh at the expense of Hon. Dr. Pyne.

#### No Justification for Delay.

Referring briefly to the subject of technical education, the Liberal leader pointed out the urgency of the matter, and declared that there was no justification for delay in adopting a full, sweeping system of technical education. It was estimated that nearly a million dollars was sent out of the Province annually to correspondence schools, and this sum collected in fees would go far toward supporting such a system. He repeated that Ontario should have a separate technical commission to supplement the work of the Dominion Commission.

#### Reciprocity Not for Legislature.

In taking up the subject of reciprocity, Hon. Mr. MacKay criticized the Provincial Treasurer for having introduced such a subject into the debate, and for forcing the members of the Opposition to discuss it. He declared that under the British North America act matters of trade and commerce were for the Dominion Government, and to them the reciprocity agreement should have been left. He feared for the outcome if the Province was to keep on interfering in purely Dominion matters as it had in this one. Hon. Mr. MacKay combated the conclusions drawn from the figures of the treaty of 1854 and showed that the farmers had benefited by reciprocity then. He sketched the efforts of Conservative Governments since Confederation to secure tariff concessions from the United States, and quoted Sir John Macdonald in support of the position taken by the Federal Government.

The Provincial Treasurer, he continued, had swallowed not only his statements with regard to capital revenues, but he had swallowed the record of all the Conservative leaders on the question of reciprocity. And he had done it all for the sake of the politicians at Ottawa.

It was an insult to the intelligence of the people of the country to say that they could not trade with the United States without losing their nationality. He declared that such an assertion was economic heresy, and showed that at the time when British relations with Germany were almost at the breaking point trade was larger than ever before.

#### Sir James Closes Debate.

Sir James, at the outset of his speech, which closed the debate, alluded to his Government as one which was "secure in the confidence of the people and in the righteousness of its own action." He criticized Hon. Mr. MacKay's amendment as being "just as unusual, just as unreasonable, and just as far from the actual facts as it was necessary for his purpose." Referring to different statements as to the deficit charged by three different members of the Opposition to exist in the Provincial Treasurer's funds, Sir James said they would at any rate not be capable accountants.

In reply to the charge that the assertions about Liberals giving away lands or timber limits to their friends were incapable of proof, Sir James said the proofs could not be found because of the absolute clearing out of desks and wardrobes by the former Government when they left office.

He said the Government were already working along the lines of conservation and reforestation, and

thought the references to those subjects in the amendment unnecessary. He declared that the hon. gentleman, the leader of the Opposition, was approaching impertinence when he asserted that neither the Minister of Education, nor the Deputy Minister, nor the Superintendent of Education had practical familiarity with education in rural neighborhoods. As for the suggestion of a Provincial Commission on Technical Education, he characterized it as "rank folly, the action of a lunatic rather than of a man of sense," for the Province, when the Dominion Government had sent out a commission, to be "following their track, endeavoring to pick up the tag lots and remnants of information they gathered."

#### Dominion Government's Duty.

Speaking of Mr. MacKay's proposal that the Provincial Government should expend larger sums on peopling the northland, the Premier claimed it was the duty of the Dominion Government to pay the cost or a reasonable portion of the cost of immigration.

Sir James defended the right of the Provincial Treasurer to allude to the danger he saw menacing the Government railway in a proposed policy, even though it was a policy of the Dominion Government.

As to Mr. MacKay's declared sympathy for Agriculture, the Premier said he would leave him to the tender mercies of the avowedly independent member from Hamilton.

That trade always followed the flag Sir James said he had always believed. Invariably, he said, British power had gone first and had been followed by the trader.

We had heard, said the Premier, of old moss-back Toryism, but had not seen it in Conservatives; if found it would likely be in the clothes of such a gentleman as the leader of the Opposition, who would argue that a man should not hold different views from those he held twenty-five years before.

#### Taft Too Much For Them.

"The wise and crafty President of the United States was too much for them," was Sir James' explanation of the effect of Messrs. Fielding and Paterson's visit to Washington. Sir Wilfrid, he said, had been appealed to by the western farmers for a lowering of the tariff, and afterwards told by Grit manufacturers that he must not do that, so he sent the Ministers ostensibly to do all in their power to secure for the western farmers a lowering of the tariff, expecting to come back saying they found it impossible to overcome the opposition they encountered. To their monumental amazement, said Sir James, these Ministers discovered that President Taft, who found himself in a hole, was willing to go farther than they proposed.

Sir James concluded a vigorous attack on the idea of annexation with the United States, as predicted by some Americans, by a warning to "those who are endeavoring to put us in that position" to "look out and beware."

After Sir James concluded, Mr. Allan Studholme asked if he would have the right to speak, but was called to order. The division then took place on Mr. MacKay's amendment at 6.30. The yeas and nays were called for, and showed a straight party division, Mr. Studholme voting with the Government, and being loudly applauded by the Ministerialists for so doing. The numbers were: Yea, 16; nay, 80.

The motion for the Speaker to leave the chair was carried on the same division. Mr. W. H. Hoyle took

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