

The acting Treasurer that the Hydro-electric Commission spent money for the local municipal power services. The Commission spent the money of the Province for the construction of the transmission lines which it owned, and which it held as trustee for the municipalities, who were responsible to the Commission for the money expended.

Mr. Rowell differentiated between an expenditure in the public accounts of \$176,000 for investigation and administration for which the Province got no return. It was possible for the Minister of Public Works to give the detail of every expenditure upon a public building, but there were no such facts laid before the members of the House as would permit of an investigation of the accounts of the Hydro-electric. "Why does the Government withhold this information; why are we not given the same information in this matter as in others?" Mr. Rowell asked. During the years 1901, 1902 and 1903 every detail of the T. & N. O. expenditure was laid before the House, and if it was possible then it was just as practicable now. The Prime Minister must be drawing upon his imagination when he said it was quite impossible to prepare the information desired.

Labor Man Approves.

Mr. Allan Studholme (East Hamilton) hoped that the order would pass. He had always been an advocate of public ownership, and defended the principle at public gatherings all over the country. He did not suppose for a moment that one dollar of the money put into the Hydro-electric enterprise had been improperly applied, but it would be a splendid vindication of the principle of public ownership to prove that it had been wisely and economically spent. Money was spent upon drainage schemes and other undertakings that were not of specific interest to parts of the Province removed from where the work was done. No question was raised as to the wisdom of this, but an accounting had to be made. He did not apologize for public ownership, but would have its efficiency established before the public.

Educational Tangle.

In asking for a return respecting the correspondence in regard to the granting of a temporary certificate to Miss Jean McGregor to teach at Gore Bay, Mr. Marshall (Monck), disclaiming any personal interest in the matter, said the inspector had applied for a temporary certificate in this case without the board making the necessary inquiry by advertisement to secure a properly certificated teacher. On the permit being granted an application for an injunction was made to prevent the board paying out any money, and the permit of the department, on the representation of the Chairman of the board, was antedated. He would like to see the correspondence to understand what actuated the department.

Hon. R. A. Pyne doubted if any information along this line was in the possession of the department. In any event what they had would be brought down. He pointed out the difficulty of obtaining qualified teachers to go to out of the way places, and thought it would be found that the department had acted wisely under the circumstances.

Steel City Bill.

A second reading was given to the bill incorporating the town of Ojibway (steel city), in Sandwich county. Mr. Hanna explained to the House that the Government had gone carefully into this bill. It had been materially changed from the original draft, and the objectionable features found in Gary and Pullman, Illinois, had been eliminated.

Mr. W. McDonald (Centre Bruce) withdrew a bill to extend the five per cent. bar tax to shops and provide for the publication of the receipts under this law from individual bars. The Provincial Secretary pointed out that the present law, in his opinion, provides that the returns from bar receipts should be confidential. He could not recall any case in which revenue was received upon the amount of business done where the figures were disclosed to the public.

Mr. Rowell thought if the aggregate receipts were made known there should not be any objection to the individual returns being accessible to the public.

BOILER MANUFACTURERS OPPOSE REGULATIONS

DEPUTATION SAYS FARMERS ARE UNITED AGAINST PROVISIONS OF NEW ACT.

A large deputation of boiler manufacturers connected with the Canadian Manufacturers' Association waited upon the Minister of Public Works yesterday, declaring that the farmers of the Province were protesting against the new regulations for the manufacture of portable engine boilers, which regulations become effective on July 1 next. The deputation asked that no change be made in the regulations effective at the present time.

The boiler manufacturers argued that there was no demand, either on the part of the manufacturers or of the farmers for the change, and that as the new boiler would surpass the other in efficiency it was quite unnecessary. They argued that on the contrary the increased price of the boilers would penalize the farmers to the extent of \$250,000 annually. They said further that it would be absolutely impossible to comply with the order making the new regulations effective on July 1. The Minister promised careful consideration of their argument.

POOLROOM LICENSES OBTAINED BY CRAFT

DEPUTATION ASKS THAT REGU- LATIONS BE CHANGED TO RE- STRICT CLUB CHARTERS.

Urging radical changes in the regulations relating to poolrooms and moving-picture concerns, a deputation of clergymen of this city, including Rev. Dr. Alex. McGillivray, Rev. John Coburn and Rev. T. E. Barclay, waited upon Hon. W. J. Hanna and Hon. I. B. Lucas yesterday. They protested against a practice alleged to be in vogue in this city where an applicant for a poolroom license, after being refused this by the Board of Police Commissioners, would form a club, get a charter from the Provincial Government, charge a nominal membership fee, and carry on the poolroom business. They declared that a man on Bloor street, despite active opposition from the church people, obtained a charter from the Government and was carrying on a poolroom, a moving picture house and a dance hall. Rev. John Coburn declared this was a very injurious combination to the moral of the younger people of the city.

Hon. Mr. Hanna said the Government had never hesitated to cancel a club license which had been obtained in the manner indicated. He said it might be difficult to prove that the management paid all the members' fees, but the general character of such a place would condemn it, and the department would not hesitate to cancel the license.

When one of the deputation said that some of the poolrooms were nothing more than blind pigs, Mr. Hanna said it was all right to say that, but the Government was doing all it could to stop blind pigs.

Further restrictions were sought upon the attendance of children at moving-picture shows, and Rev. M. Skey advocated the appointment of two additional moving-picture inspectors.

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