

mate of \$400,000.

Another item was \$445 for curtains in an alcove of the ballroom. "That would furnish the whole house of most of the people in our part of the country," said Mr. McDonald.

"Stable fittings cost \$367," he said. "Fancy Government House having a better stable than most of us have homes!" he exclaimed.

"Shame!" cried Allan Studholme (East Hamilton).

"Bathroom fittings cost \$2,013," went on Mr. McDonald, "and the Government spent \$7,000 on a concrete revetment wall to keep Government House from sliding down the hill."

#### Dr. Reaume's Tour.

The expenses of Hon. Dr. Reaume, who visited Europe to get ideas for Government House, amounted to \$1,000," he said. "Just imagine paying a man \$1,000 pin money to go and look over the castles and chateaus of Europe, and then sending letters out to the school children telling them to be careful and save all waste paper for the Red Cross!"

"The sum of \$19,872 was spent on an atrium, which in plain English means a front hall," continued Mr. McDonald.

"For the love of Mike!" exclaimed the Labor member, Allan Studholme.

"It may be a new-fangled name," said Mr. McDonald, "but the farmers will know it costs money—a thing of beauty and an expense forever."

#### Not Democratic.

Mr. McDonald spoke on an amendment to a motion to go into supply, the amendment being as follows:

"This House regrets that, notwithstanding the war, the Government has continued its extravagant and wasteful expenditures in the building and furnishing of Government House, over \$400,000 having been expended since the outbreak of the war, with a total cost to date of over \$1,000,000.

"And this House is of the opinion that so expensive a Government House is out of harmony with the democratic spirit of the people of the Province."

#### Expenditures Defended.

Hon. Finlay Macdiarmid, Minister of Public Works, defended Government House expenditures, saying the building was "not out of keeping with the position of the Province."

Mr. Thomas Marshall (Lincoln) said New York State Governor's residence cost only \$500,000, and it would take the Governors' residences in twelve States of the Union to equal the expenditure on Ontario's Government House.

Mr. McDonald's amendment was "lost on division."

## MR. DEWART AGAINST INCREASED GOLD TAX

AN INDUSTRY WHICH SHOULD  
BE ENCOURAGED IN CANADA  
NOW.

Through the unfortunate omission of the word "not," the attitude of Mr. Hartley Dewart on the question of the Province taxing gold was misrepresented in the report of Monday night's debate in The Globe yesterday.

Gold should not be taxed on the same basis as nickel, Mr. Dewart said; the price of gold is stationary. The Empire needs every ounce of gold. Under war conditions the purchasing power of gold has decreased fifty per cent. The price of all other commodities has increased, and the cost of producing and mining gold has increased. It does not stand in the same position as do other metals. It is as essential to the successful carrying out the war as is wheat, with the balances between the nations of the world being settled in gold. When Australia and South Africa have removed the taxes on gold-producing properties, the Government of Ontario may fairly make the difference on taxation between gold and nickel producing properties, which the Minister of Mines, it is hoped, will be wise enough to accept.

In comparison with these Dominions gold mining in Ontario might be said to be in its infancy, and, as the Minister of Mines had said, when capital was timid and nervous and we were looking all the time to Americans and foreign people to put moneys into these investments, we must not have unreasonable changes. He urged that there should be no increased taxation on gold at the present time, for it is the duty of the Government to encourage, and not destroy, the industry.