

assist financially in the building of such institutions. The matter of the school age was also bound up with that subject.

Dr. Cody explained the proposal to increase rural teachers' salaries, as stated in yesterday's Globe. He did not claim that the consolidated schools would correct all the ills in the rural school system. It was the intention to introduce an amendment shortly to provide for peripatetic teachers for the sparsely settled rural districts.

Thomas Marshall Replies.

Mr. Thomas Marshall (Lincoln) replied briefly to the Minister's speech. He congratulated him first upon his appointment to the office, and he assured him that the ideals enunciated by the Minister would not be hindered by any narrow criticism from the Opposition. However, he declared that the educational system was not as good a one as is sometimes believed. He had not heard for a long time as severe an arraignment of the department as that given by the Minister in referring to the many changes that were contemplated. The average boy or girl in the schools was not given opportunity to think sufficiently. The curriculum, too, was overloaded. He did not think unsupervised homework was what it should be. Instead he believed there should not be so much time for recitation in the class room, and some time for preparation of work under supervision.

Examinations at best, said Mr. Marshall, only show the temporary knowledge of the pupils of unrelated facts. Isolated facts were of no use in themselves. The instructors should lead their pupils and not drive them. He thought the Minister would have been well advised to have appointed a committee of experts to go over the whole system of education in the Province. There should be a larger measure of co-operation with the local educational authorities on the part of the department. There should, too, be a more active human interest between the department and the people of the Province.

Principals of schools should be given more freedom in directing the studies and in determining the management of their schools. In conclusion, he declared that a Commission should be appointed to ascertain what improvements were desirable in technical, industrial and agricultural education. It should also be ascertained what is necessary to place the training of teachers on a better foundation. It should also be ascertained how better to equip the teachers for French and English schools, and the department ought to get closer to the people, and co-operation should take the place of dictation.

Mr. Z. Mageau moved the adjournment of the debate.

A bill was introduced by Mr. Wm. McDonald (North Bruce) to amend the Department of Education Act, which seeks to abolish the position of Superintendent of Education, which was occupied until recently by the late Dr. John Seath. Mr. G. C. Hurdman (West Ottawa) also introduced a bill, the purpose of which is to renew the franchise of the Morrisburg & Ottawa Electric Railway, which expires this year.

WARM FIGHT ON CITY BILL

Question of Disposal of Sewage From York County Causes Debate

COUNTY IS OPPOSED

One of Toronto's bills managed to get through the Private Bills Committee of the Legislature without amendment. There was great rejoicing on the part of some of the Toronto representatives at Queen's Park. However, their joy was short lived. The bill which was adopted without opposition, approved of certain money by-laws, without submitting them to the people. But it was the second bill containing the contentious clause relating to the disposal of sewage from York County that caused a real fight. And all of the Toronto members were not fighting for the city all the time. Some of them had views of their own and they expressed them.

City Solicitor Johnston explained the various clauses of the bill, aided from time to time by the department heads and members of the council. Certain clauses of it which were passed were referred to the officers for redrafting. They will be considered further at a meeting of the committee on Thursday.

Parks Clause Adopted.

The clause to allow the Parks Department to plant, trim or remove trees on highways without serving legal notice on the owner or occupant of adjoining property was adopted, after a clause had been inserted to allow the owner to appeal to the head of the Department if he had objection to the procedure.

A clause validating local improvement by-laws and enabling the issuance of debentures to cover the same was passed. Clause Four empowering the city to prohibit any change in the use of buildings without the consent of the city was struck out. Clause Five confining the franchise of the Toronto Suburban Railway in West Toronto north of Dundas street, to the streets it is now operating on, was passed.

Another clause that was struck out was that which placed the costs of all local improvements on sub-divided lands on the land so sub-divided. The principle of a clause enabling the city to levy rates against annexed land for sewer outlets was approved, although the text of the section was sent back to the legal department to be redrafted.

Opposed by County.

The clause proposing to amend existing legislation to relieve the city of taking care of sewage from York County in a city system which it was said was now overtaxed, was opposed by Mr. J. R. L. Starr, representing York County. The discussion on this clause was protracted and at times heated. Mr. V. A. Sinclair (South Oxford) finally made a suggestion which was adopted in principle, but finally referred to the legal department for redrafting. It was that the acts be amended so that instead of undefined arbitrators in fixing the amount to be paid, the Ontario Railway and Municipal Board be made the arbitrators.

Mayor Church was not satisfied with leaving it to the Railway Board, and Mr. T. H. Lennox (North York) said that the Mayor's criticism was an evidence of lack of confidence in the Railway Board.

A bill to enable the city to issue debentures without a vote of the people for permanent works aggregating over \$1,500,000 was passed.