

Views on Redistribution.

In regard to redistribution, upon which issue Mr. Nickle had vigorously attacked the Government, Mr. Stringer said that the proper course would seem to be to wait for full and proper consideration of the problem, so as to ensure fair and equitable treatment to all sections of the Province. In regard to Opposition criticisms, he said it seemed to be a case of "what the Government has not done it ought to have done, and what it has done it ought not to have done." In turn he credited each of the Ministers of the Cabinet with ability to administer their departments, and declared the Premier to be a man without a peer in the Province.

Hon. Harry Mills said his department had a surplus last year of \$390,107. He gave the House information as to underground geological work being carried on in the mining areas, stating that Ontario was the farthest advanced country in the world in that particular line of research. His department had greatly increased the expenditures made with a direct view to assisting the mines of the Province and their development.

The Minister placed Ontario in third place in gold production, producing 81¼ per cent. of Canada's gold. In silver production she was only exceeded by Mexico and the United States. The total production of all mineral wealth from the institution of the mining industry to the present was \$676,800,000, which prompted R. R. Hall, Liberal, Parry Sound, to inquire why the North country had not received something out of all this wealth.

Total dividends from gold producing companies, he said, had amounted to \$86,236,000, and from silver producing companies \$28,092,000.

The Minister emphasized the importance of research work now going on to treat economically Ontario's low-grade iron ores. He believed that experiments being conducted by a special committee would be successful, which would be of immense benefit to the Province.

"It is the intention of the International Nickel Company," he announced, "to refine all their nickel in Ontario in future."

SEEKS TO EQUALIZE COST OF EDUCATION

Minister of Education Submits Bill to Spread Costs

REFERS TO HIGH SCHOOLS

Important changes in the Province's secondary education system are foreshadowed in a Government bill to amend the school laws introduced in the Legislature yesterday by Hon. R. H. Grant, Minister of Education.

In general, the measure seeks to implement by legislation the decisions arrived at by the Rural Secondary School Education Conference, a council of County Council representatives, which met at the Parliament Buildings in July, 1922.

Amendments Proposed.

The proposed amendments, in effect, are as follows: Granting of power to County Councils to form a Consultative High School Committee which shall have general supervision of secondary education within the borders of the county; provision of a new basis for the co-operation of high school districts and municipalities in providing for the cost of educating both resident and county pupils; and authorization for the creation of continuation schools in high school districts where a central school would not be conveniently accessible to pupils in the more remote section of the district.

In explaining his bill to The Globe last night, Mr. Grant stated that the clauses relating to financing were designed to remove the inequalities in the burdens borne by the rate-payers who live within high school districts or continuation school sections and those who live within the county outside of such districts and sections.

Existing Conditions.

Under the existing law the rate-payers within these districts and sections contribute to the full cost of educating pupils from these areas, and also pay a proportionate share of the cost of county pupils through the County Council, while the county resident pays only his share of the county rate for the cost of educating county pupils.

The plan outlined in the bill introduced yesterday seeks to divide the expenditure on both classes of pupils as follows: Fifty per cent. of the cost of educating "resident" pupils to be borne by the county, and 50 per cent. by the high school district; 50 per cent. of the cost of "county" pupils to be borne by the county, and 50 per cent. by the municipalities in which the parents or guardian of the pupil resides.

The basis of co-operation is not obligatory, but remains optional, being brought into force by vote of the County Council.

SIMPLE QUESTION STARTS DEBATE

Legislature Hears Again Arguments on Workmen's Compensation

In accordance with what appears to be developing into a habit, the Legislature yesterday afternoon extended the period known as "before the orders of the day" with such success that an hour was spent in debate, which began with a simple question.

H. H. Dewart, K.C., started the ball rolling by asking when the report of the Workmen's Compensation Board would be available. Premier Drury did not know, but promised to see that it was produced as speedily as possible. Then Mr. Dewart took the floor to express his views on the much-talked-of investigation into the administration of the Workmen's Compensation Act.

Then followed a dozen reiterations of arguments advanced during the debate of last Friday, when the House voted down M. M. MacBride's motion for an investigation and changed its mind, to reopen the debate. Speaking on a motion to adjourn the House, member after member rose to offer objections against investigation of any kind, to argue that the Public Accounts Committee should be the scene of the investigation, or that the Labor Committee should be entrusted with the task, and to advance specific complaints which have been aired in the House with a regularity which, if somewhat irregular, has been, nevertheless, persistent.

The end found the Province's Parliament precisely where it started. Toward the close of the hour G. G. Halcrow (Independent Labor, East Hamilton) tried to have discussion ruled out of order on the ground that the subject of the argument was contained in a motion already on the order paper, but he failed. Finally, M. M. MacBride choked off the flow of eloquence by moving that the orders be read. Premier Drury smiled and acquiesced, but one of his Ministers was not so amenable. Hon. Walter Rollo, Minister of Labor, rose a few minutes later to object that things had been said which would have to be contradicted. Mr. Speaker thought otherwise and stopped further argument.