

April 7

SAYS TRUSTEES EXTRAVAGANT

Leopold Macaulay's Criticism Defeats Travelling-Expense Measure

HITS TORONTO BOARD

Strong opposition from the Conservative group forced the Hepburn Government, yesterday, to abandon an amendment to the School Law Amendment Act providing for permission to pay travelling expenses of Trustees and officers of boards operating under the High Schools Act.

Hon. Dr. L. J. Simpson, Minister of Education, argued the provision was similar to one which had been in the Public Schools Act for many years, but Hon. Leopold Macaulay claimed there was too much extravagance in board expenditures, and charged the Toronto Board of Education, for instance, apparently occupied more time discussing automobiles and the use of chauffeurs than anything else. He proposed that Provincial Secretary Nixon move an amendment deleting the provision, and he would second it. Mr. Nixon demurred, but admitted "some of the Toronto Board's expenses are ridiculously high." Mr. Macaulay then moved that the provision be struck out, and he had no opposition.

The Opposition, through George H. Challies, challenged the propriety of an amendment to the Rural Power District Service Charge Act, providing for the fixing by Order-in-Council of the minimum number of consumers per mile of transmission line required for construction of works by the Hydro Commission in a rural power district. Mr. Challies contended such approval should be vested in the Legislature, and moved an amendment to that effect. It was defeated. Former Hydro Commissioner and Attorney-General Roebuck put up a strong case against it, claiming it violated Hydro practice of long standing, and would, if allowed, prohibit Hydro from making rate changes when and as circumstances warranted.

CROLL ATTACKS HIS SUCCESSOR

M.L.A. Indignant When Not Consulted About Extra Trustees

David A. Croll, former Minister of Municipal Affairs in the Hepburn Government, last night in the Legislature led an attack on a move to nearly double the number of members on the Board of Education in his own City of Windsor, and at the same time, in tones weighted heavily with irony, attacked the failure of the present Minister of Municipal Affairs, Hon. Eric Cross, to consult him on the proposed legislation.

Mr. Croll's attack received the full support of Premier Mitchell Hepburn, although two other members of the Windsor district, Major James Clark, Windsor-Sandwich, and A. C. Trottier, Essex North, supported the amendment.

The incident broke suddenly during a routine examination of the Statute Law Amendment Act and after Mr. Cross rose to support the amendment, which would have the effect of increasing the Windsor board members from seven to twelve, and make applicable to Windsor the provisions of the Board of Education Act that would apply to a city having a population of not less than 200,000.

Mr. Croll, his face flushed, assured the House he happened to be the member for Windsor-Sandwich. He told the present Minister of Municipal Affairs also that, if he happened to look through his files or consult his officials, he might learn that he had something to do with the amalgamation of the Border Cities.

"I am not going to be ignored completely," he snapped.

Mr. Croll told the House that when the Forest Hill Village incorporation bill was before the House a policy of cutting the cost of government was declared by the

Legislature. He declared there was no necessity for a larger board in Windsor.

"I am in complete agreement," added Premier Hepburn, pointing out that he had had no intimation that the clause was going into the bill. He added that his colleague, Mr. Cross, was not entirely in favor of the proposal which emanated from the Windsor Council.