

for Quebec Centre (Mr. Lachance) when the matter is coming up.

Mr. HAZEN: I shall be glad to do so.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the first time.

AID TO AGRICULTURE.

House again in committee on Bill No. 103, for the granting of aid for the Advancement of Agriculture Instruction in the Provinces.—Mr. Burrell. (Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair.)

On section 3—amounts payable for instruction in agriculture:

The CHAIRMAN: There is an amendment proposed by the hon. member for Carleton (Mr. Carvell), as follows:

That section 3 be amended by inserting after the word 'fourteen' in line 22, the following words: upon an appropriation in that behalf from year to year made by Parliament; and by adding at the end of said section 3 the following words, namely, 'provided the same shall be voted yearly as aforesaid.'

Mr. OLIVER: The desire embodied in this amendment was to ensure that the proposals of the Government for each year for which money was being appropriated would be brought before Parliament for consideration before the money was appropriated. It is simply to nominally establish the principle of parliamentary control, but really in the case of this Bill, for the purpose of securing the full advantage of the knowledge that must necessarily belong to members of Parliament coming from all parts of the Dominion in planning out the work and projects of the department for each year, and to have that done in the ordinary, the usual and the constitutional way by the submission of each proposed vote to the House, thereby making it subject to consideration and discussion by the House. That is the purpose of the amendment. My hon. friend who moved it said that it might not be as well drafted as if there had been more time employed upon it, but that is the principle we desire to affirm.

Mr. BURRELL: I appreciate the object of my hon. friend's amendment, but I might point out that there will be no difficulty in meeting what he has in view, because every year Parliament will be asked to grant a sum of money for the carrying out of this Act by a special vote, and on that item, as also on the general report which we have to make, according to another clause, there will be ample opportunity to have the most thorough discussion in connection with the whole matter. I think the object we have in view of making it a continuous principle and giving the whole thing a stability that it

Mr. LEMIEUX.

would not otherwise have will be much better carried out by the Bill as it is framed.

Mr. NESBITT: Does the minister say that he is going to give a report of what has been done with the money the year before, and that he will ask for a grant each year and have an open discussion on what is to be done with the money before it is voted for the ensuing year? Is that the intention of the Bill? I would like if the minister would give us an idea of the form that this education will take.

Mr. BURRELL: With regard to a subject like this, it would be impossible to give any hon. member the details of an expenditure which involves an immense amount of thought and discussion with the various provinces whose conditions are so absolutely different. The preamble of the Bill sets out that the money will be applied for education, instruction and demonstration in agricultural subjects, which covers much. We shall only be too happy, as the Bill requires, to lay a full report of what has been done during the preceding year and at that time, and when a proposal is submitted for the next year, my hon. friend, as well as other hon. members, will have an ample opportunity to give a thorough airing to his views as to the lines upon which these expenditures should be carried on in the future.

Mr. OLIVER: I do not understand what the minister means by saying that each year a sum of money will be voted for carrying out the provisions of this Bill.

Mr. BURRELL: The other day the hon. member for North Oxford (Mr. Nesbitt) deprecated the idea that a lot of this ten million dollars should be used up in the employment of officials which he said would defeat to some extent the purpose of the Bill. I wish to point out that all the money voted under statute is given absolutely to the province, but there will be certain expenses in connection with administration which, of course, will be voted each year and on which there can be discussion.

Mr. GRAHAM: I do not say it is wrong to expend this money by statute but there is this difficulty about it, that suppose some members should think it was not properly expended they have no recourse but to move that the Act be repealed, whereas were it voted in Supply in the ordinary way the House would have direct control over it.

Mr. EDWARDS: Would not the annual voting of this money presuppose the necessity of specifying in detail the amounts under each item, and would not that be open to the objection that there may arise occasions where in the interim between