

February 27.

THE "ROYAL" READERS.

Mr. Broder asked whether any instructions have been given by the Department of Education as to the use of any of the text-books known as the "Royal Readers" in the Normal and Model schools, and if so, when such instructions were given. Whether any report or recommendation was asked for or received from the Principals of such schools, or either of them, with reference to the "Royal Readers," and if so, from, or by which of them? Whether it had previously been the practice of the Department of Education to give instructions as to the text-books to be used in the Normal or Model schools?

Mr. G. W. Ross said instructions had been given by the Department as to the use of the text-books in the Normal and Model schools. They would be found in page 7 of his Report of Education. They were given on the 25th July last. No report or recommendation was asked for or received from the Principal of such schools. It was the duty of the Department, as laid down by statute, to supervise or prescribe the text-books used in these schools.

Mr. Metcalfe moved for a return showing the names and residences of the members now composing the Central Committee of Examiners. The dates of their several appointments. Copies of all Orders-in-Council or departmental regulations defining the powers and duties of the committee. Copies of the minutes of the proceedings of the committee, except those relating to examinations since first day of January, 1882. Copies of all recommendations made by the committee to the Minister of Education or the Government, upon any matter upon which they have made recommendations.

March 5th.

CO-EDUCATION.

Mr. Gibson (Hamilton) moved—"That inasmuch as the Senate of the Provincial University, having for several years admitted women to the University examinations and class lists, and inasmuch as a considerable number of women have availed themselves of the privilege, but labor under the disadvantage of not having access to any institution which affords tuition necessary in the higher years in the course: in the opinion of this House provision should be made for the admission of women to University College." After a lengthened and exhaustive discussion, the motion was carried on division.

March 7th.

SCHOOL GRANTS.

Mr. Baxter moved for a Return showing the total number of school sections in the province in which the Government grant has been withheld since 1880; giving the reasons therefor in each case, and copies of any correspondence in the Education Department bearing upon the subject. He said there were some cases of hardship, and the Minister of Education should exercise very great caution before withholding any grant. The people or trustees should have some opportunity, in cases where the population is decreasing, to lay their case before the Department.

Mr. Ross (Middlesex) said sometimes it was necessary to withhold the grant, but he hoped the power was always exercised with caution.

The motion carried.

SCHOOL BOOKS.

Mr. Creighton moved for copies of all correspondence or communication since first of January, 1882, between the Minister of Education, or any other member of the Government, or departmental or other officer thereof, and any other person, or company, with regard to text-books for use in the provincial schools or the authorization thereof, and with regard to the withdrawal of any such authorization, or the adoption of one uniform or composite series, or otherwise, in regard to the use of text-books in the provincial schools. Copies of all Orders-in-Council, or departmental regulations, with regard to the powers or duties of the Public School Inspectors as to changes in the text-books in use in the schools within their inspection districts, and of all circulars issued by the Department of Education with reference to such powers, or duties, or the authority under which changes should be made.

The motion passed.

March 10th.

SUPERANNUATED TEACHERS' FUND.

Mr. McLaughlin moved for a return showing in each and every year since 1871, inclusive, the amount of money paid by the teachers of Ontario into the Superannuated Teachers' Fund; the amount paid out by the Government to superannuated teachers; the amount in each year paid out in excess of the amount paid into said fund; the total amount paid into said fund; the total amount paid out of said fund, and the amount of the latter above the former. He stated that a