

was derived from the report of the Superintendent of Education. He did not say that 62 schools were in operation, but that 62 school sections had organized under the law. He had listened with some surprise to the style of argument used by the member for Guysborough. He had listened to rather extraordinary appeals in that house, and had seen great liberties taken with hon. gentlemen, but he had never heard of such a liberty as that which had just been taken by the member for Guysborough with the gentlemen who supported the Government. He (Mr. C.) could not say that the principle of assessment was bad, for he had affirmed it over and over again, but he called upon hon. gentlemen to vote against the bill from the small, paltry consideration of losing a few votes among their constituents.

He did not consider the present position of the cause of education in this country, nor what was due to the people he represented; but he called upon hon. gentlemen to consider only what was due to themselves, and from personal motives to defeat a measure designed to improve the common school system of the country.

He (the Pro. Sec.) would ask whether this was a dignified or honorable position to occupy—to call upon gentlemen on that side of the house to abandon a government that had had the courage to grapple with a great question, which they knew was fraught with great danger, but which they felt the best interests of the country demanded should be dealt with at their hands? He did not envy that hon. gentleman the position he occupied, and he should look with interest at the division, to see how many would be guided by his advice.

Mr. STEWART CAMPBELL said that the hon. Provincial Secretary had expressed surprise at his moving a call of the house. His reason was plain; three or four gentlemen who had expressed themselves opposed to the bill had been about the house all day; but where were they now? His object was to bring every man here to record his vote, as it was his duty to do. The hon. Pro. Sec. had taken exception to the appeal he had made to the house. He thought that when the house remembered the appeal that hon. gentleman once made to the house and the country on the subject of retrenchment—an appeal which it is true achieved its purpose and gave him power,—a power he did not envy him, when gained by such unworthy means—they would agree with him that he was the last man to criticise the motives of any hon. gentleman in that house.

The question was then taken upon Mr. Chas. Campbell's amendment, which was lost by a large majority.

Mr. Locke's motion was then put, and lost by a vote of 30 to 16.

*For*—Messrs. Heffernan, Ross, Hatfield, Killam, Ray, Bill, Miller, C. J. Campbell, Robertson, Locke, Bourinot, Stewart Campbell, Caldwell, Robichau, Coffin, Balcum—16.

*Against*—D. Fraser, Shannon, Tobin, Donkin, Hill, Longley, McFarlane, McKay, King, Lawrence, Allison, Pryor, Parker, Whitman, Kaulback, Moore, Hamilton, Pro. Sec., J. Fraser, J. Campbell, McLelan, Blackwood, Atty. Gen., Blanchard, Annand, Cowie, McKinnon, C. J. Campbell, Fin. Sec., Archibald—30.

Mr. ARCHIBALD moved that the bill be re-committed for the purpose of striking out the

clause relating to the Council of Public Instruction and substituting the following:

"The Governor may appoint not more than nine and not less than seven persons, of whom the Superintendent of Education shall be one, to be a Council of Public Instruction, and such persons shall hold their office during pleasure, and shall be subject to all lawful orders and directions, in the exercise of their duties which may from time to time be issued by the Governor in Council."

On the question being taken, there appeared for it 16 against 29.

*For*—Ross, Parker, Heffernan, Ray, Bill, Blanchard, Locke, McLelan, Blackwood, Robertson, S. Campbell, Annand, Archibald, Coffin, Balcum, Robichau—16.

*Against*—C. J. Campbell, Hill, Bourinot, Longley, Tobin, Killam, McFarlane, McKay, Hatfield, Lawrence, Hatfield, D. Fraser, Whitman, Kaulback, Moore, Hamilton, Miller, J. Campbell, Donkin, Prov. Secretary, Caldwell, King, Cowie, Colin Campbell, McKinnon, Fin. Secretary, Shannon, Atty. General—29.

Mr. BILL moved the following amendment:

"Resolved—That this bill be re-committed for the purpose of amending the second section thereof, so as to include the Lieut. Governor for the time being, in the Council of Public Instruction, and that he be the head thereof."

Hon. PROV. SEC. felt it his duty to say that he had good reason for believing that the Lieut. Governor entertained the strongest objection to occupy the position contemplated by this amendment.

Mr. BILL was rather surprised at this, for he was under the impression that his Excellency wished to identify himself with the education of the country. In a speech which he delivered at a banquet last summer to the Canadian Delegates, he expressed himself to that effect, and said that he considered it not only his duty but his privilege to take an interest in the educational system of the country. The sentiments he then expressed met with the cordial approval of thousands of the intelligent people of this country; and with the permission of the house he would read an extract from it. The hon. gentleman then read as follows:—

"It would afford me great satisfaction were I to realize in the future course of my administration one-half of what the Provincial Sec. has ventured to anticipate. Whatever I might wish to effect or whatever any individual might hope to accomplish is nothing in comparison to that which a free and intelligent people have in their own power to accomplish for themselves. I have had some experience, gentlemen, in public affairs, and have at all events been able to learn this during my term of office, that there is no greater mistake in governing than governing too much. In a country like this a Governor must rely on his Ministry and on the people, whose representatives they are, if he hopes to effect any real public benefit; yet whilst he looks to the Ministry and to the people for assistance it is his duty to aid, by every means in his power, the development of the intellect and education of the country."

He felt that this was rather a delicate subject to treat upon, and he was under the impression that he had only to mention it, when it would be at once agreed to. He was at a loss to understand what objections his Excellency could have to be connected with the