tives in the Assembly. The estimated expected population of the Yukon amounted to as much as one-half the total population of the organised Territories. There was every reason to expect that before the general election there would require to be a redistribution which would give the Yukon representation in the House, in which event accurate information collected by a member of the Government would have been most desirable. It was true that a different destiny had overtaken the Yukon territory, but he was arguing from the point of view of last winter and from the conditions and circumstances and possibilities which the Government had had to consider at the time. The financial side of their policy was fully justified. There was no use in arguing that they should have known that the territory would be cut off. Even if they had known that their jurisdiction would cease on 14th June, the expedition would still be justified. As to the mission all the particulars to be had before the return of the Commissioner had been given, and he would leave the question to the judgment of the House.

A FOREIGN APPROPRIATION.

The next item was one of $750 "to pay the Imperial Institute the proportion of expenses of the Canadian Court allotted to the Territories to Dec., 1898." He said that this one of the rapidly diminishing items, a few of which remained as a legacy from a previous period when the business of the country was carried on by the Lieut.-Governor and was left in practically irresponsible hands. In 1894 the capital amount due on this particular agreement was $1824. The agreement had been made by the Lieut.-Governor and the Minister of Interior, the former in reality acting upon instructions from the latter; and by it the Department was to provide $1,300, the Territories paying $500. Thus the Territories were committed to the payment of that annual amount for the Territorial Court in the Institute. The arrangement would not be renewed. The Government were taking no part in the Territorial exhibition in the Institute, considering that the matter belonged to the Federal authority which retains exclusive jurisdiction respecting immigration. But the subscription would have to be paid, as it was agreed to by an authority competent at the time to make an agreement for the Territories. For some time Messrs. Redpath and Skinner, Canadian trustees of the Institute, had been themselves paying the Territorial subscription. The time had come for the Territories to carry out the agreement made in their name,—to pay what is owing, but no more. No doubt the intention was excellent, but there were no such strikingly good results from it as would justify, in the state of Territorial finances, the payment of $500 a year or even a lesser amount. The connection would be discontinued.

THE VISITING AMERICAN JOURNALISTS.

Under the heading of Miscellaneous there was an item to assist in defraying the expense of the entertainment of parties of members of American press associations. He had been personally present at the entertainment given to one of these parties at Regina. From what he could gather from the very large number of papers received, he had no hesitation at all in stating that the plan was a first rate one. The country had received an amount of practically free and most appreciative advertising in the States represented by these parties through which we could reasonably hope to get an immigration that no expenditure in the way of salaries and expenses of agents could bring about. Certain communities undertook to arrange entertainment for the parties, and the Government was asked to help to defray the expenses. In no case were they proposing to pay more than half the expense incurred by communities. For every dollar the Government would pay, the communities paid a dollar of their own.

TO CARRY ON NEXT YEAR'S SERVICES.

In addition to the supplementaries, the House was asked to appropriate $60,000 for 1899. In changing the financial year they had several ends in view. One aim was to enable the holding of the annual legislative sessions in the early portion of the year instead of in the fall; and in arranging for winter sessions, to enable the public accounts to be brought down within a reasonable time after the closing of the financial year. They had to allow for a certain length of time to elapse between the closing of the year and the closing of the accounts,—either that or make use of Lieut.-Governor's warrants, because the accounts of no business whose year ended on a certain date could be closed up sharp at that date. They had approximated the desirable arrangement now—an unwritten and flexible arrangement of course—of having the House called early in the year. The Treasury Ordinance allowed one month after the end of the year for the closing of the accounts, and it would not be desirable to call the House together until four or six weeks after the new year. It was desirable that it should be called not later than he had indicated. It would be unconstitutional for the Government to advise prorogation now with dissolution and elections approaching and with a new financial year commencing before the new Legislature could well meet, without asking Supply sufficient to carry on the public business until the new House was likely to meet. The amount so voted would practically settle the period at which the new House would have to be called. In asking an amount for this purpose they were simply following Canadian constitutional precedents—following the regular practice of the provinces. The amount asked ($60,000) was not large enough to allow the Government to run on very long without a session. Two-thirds of the amount, or $40,000, would be paid out in January for school grants, leaving only $20,000 to carry on the ordinary business until the House met. So there was no need to apprehend any violent strain, or any attempt on the part of the Government to carry on the business too long without the sanction of the new Legislature. The amount, the House would understand, would have to be revoted in the Estimates of the next session.

THE LESSON OF THE ESTIMATES.

He had now completed the explanation of the Estimates, and had explained in detail and at length, which would save time later on. He thought he had explained every important item. Apart from those items there were certain matters which this was an appropriate time to consider. The amount asked in the supplementaries was extraordinarily and unexpectedly large. The most significant feature of the Estimates, it seemed to him, was the fact that although the revenue for this year was so very far in excess of their ordinary revenue, there appeared to be necessity for all of it. Here they were in the middle or just a little past the middle of a financial year for which Supply had already been voted, and without going outside the fyles of the office,—merely upon the representations sent in by members, engineers and others, of work which demanded public expenditure, they easily found ample scope for the application of the extraordinary revenue. The new departures made were insignificant financially. Upon the old and regular services they easily found places for the disposition of all the increase. If they could so easily expend the remarkably large amount—because $162,000 was a remarkably large amount to be supplementary to the regular revenue, they must conclude that the ordinary revenue was now by no means adequate to supply the ordinary wants of the Territories. This conclusion had been looked upon as not far away before, but it was driven home with force to-day. Then followed the other question, What were they to do? In a single year they were expending upon actual requirements and necessities $162,000 more than in future years they were likely to get. Their necessities were constantly increasing, their services were growing, and the needs would never become less. What were they to do? It was plain that they could not possibly look for any such increases in revenue in future years. But the growth of the services, the extensions of schools, and other conditions obliged them to look for some means of obtaining an increase in revenue. They were brought to the point which he had discussed last year. The present transitory state was in a way very suitable, yet they were confronted with the fact that it did yield enough money to meet the conditions. The problem was one which would very soon have to be faced. It was all very well to say that the present institutions were suitable; that was very true. The Territories were not fixed and bound down by Imperial Acts as were the Provinces. We were not bound by fixed agreement or final terms. Our position depended only upon an Act of Parliament which might be amended or changed, and our Vote depended upon the annual will of Parliament, and could be increased at Parliament's pleasure. If the Territorial financial problem were solved, our present institutions would be suitable for all needs for some time to come. Our legislative jurisdiction was the same as possessed by the provinces, excepting that we lacked the borrowing power. In all respects, except the financial side, the legislative machinery and position were quite adequate. But the financial side was vital. The machinery and institutions must have money to keep them in operation. However excellent or desirable those institutions, the country was confronted with the fact that the machinery and institutions were no longer feasible if side by side with them there was failure from the financial point of view. There seemed to be only one thing to do, only one step to take to relieve the position; and they should prepare for that step as practical men, not as theorists. The argument that provincial establishment meant taxation might be a very useful argument with which to appeal to the populace, and with which to carry meetings, but to men who take the trouble to see all sides of the question there was only one conclusion to come to, and that was that very little hope existed of relieving the strain except by the Territories taking the final step and entering the confederation of provinces. It could not reasonably be hoped that Parliament would give the necessary increase in the present grants; and in his view it would be the principal work of the new Legislature at least before the end of the next term to open negotiations for the entrance of the Territories into confederation. Personally he was not an ardent provincialist. He had always taken the ground that it was well to make haste slowly, and so long as we could work out our own salvation he favored the present status. But if we could not get the necessary revenues we simply could not continue to carry on the business. He had no hesitation in saying that even within the next year they would be unable to provide fully for the ordinary services with the present ordinary revenue. The rate at which the schools were growing while very gratifying was none the less embarrassing. In every direction there was increasing growth, and every step of development in the school system meant an additional demand on the exchequer. There was every reason now to look for much more rapid growth than in the past. Everything seemed to have taken a favorable turn. The Yukon had advertised the North-West Territories all over the civilised world, and more attention would be called to this country when the results of the present harvest became known. There was every indication of a flow of immigration which unfortunately, however ardently hoped for, had not materialised in past years. So they had to look forward to increased inroads on the revenue available for schools and public works. To have to reduce the school grants would be a very distasteful necessity, but it would be a necessity in the near future if the present rate of increase in the school attendance continued, and if some remedy was not found financially. He thought unless the remedy was found the present school grants could not be continued more than two years longer; and even next year, with the revenue no larger than the present year's ordinary revenue, when the amounts for schools were provided little would be left for public works and other purposes. As practical men they must conclude that the present institutions would not do if joined with the financial embarrassment. Outside of the method of direct taxation the only method open was to negotiate for entrance to confederation. There was no question that when we went in we would receive more money than we receive now. Whether we would receive all that the Territories would be entitled to was a different question, depending on the Government and Legislature of the day, depending on the men entrusted with the negotiations. The settlement would not be consummated to-day, nor possibly next year, but the question was one which it seemed to him the new Legislature would have to take up, and he thought it was the most important question that the new Legislature would have to deal with. He made this statement for the Government as showing that the future attitude of this Government would have the end of provincial establishment in view. The

VISION WAS NOT ALTOGETHER GOLDEN.

He had no thought that the change would make us wealthy. He had called attention last year to the fact that when the Territories are erected under provincial establishment we would have to provide for several services which were now provided by the Federal Parliament. Among these items was the administration of justice which, exclusive of the salaries of the judges, costs $32,000 a year; towards agricultural societies in the Territories the Dominion pays $7,000 annually; $15,000 was expended last year and $5,000 was being expended this year in aid of creameries in the Territories, besides $200,000 last year and $165,000 this year passed in aid of dairying generally, a large part of which was expended for the benefit of the Territories. The question of dairying was, by the way, one which confronted the Assembly; at no distant date no doubt they would be obliged to deal with that subject. The Mounted Police expenditure—$385,000 last year and $353,000 this year, of course he would always argue was an expenditure upon a federal force. The police were a federal necessity on account of the Indians, and were not for local purposes. The Dominion Public Works department made many expenditures in the North-West for objects of provincial character. The Dominion built no jails nor court houses in the provinces. All these services, now carried out at federal expense, would fall upon the local authority under provincial establishment. Then there was the vote from which the Assembly derived the bulk of its revenues,—the vote for Government of the North-West Territories,—$358,000 last year, of which $282,000 came to the Assembly. The balance, expended from Ottawa, was for strictly domestic matters, including the maintenance of insane patients, the land titles offices, the expenses of Lieut.-Governor's office and Government House. Besides the foregoing the Dominion was this year expending $150,000 upon surveys in the North-West, an item which would be charged against the capital account of the Territories, and which belonged to the domestic side, although so long as the Dominion holds the Crown lands the item could not be properly chargeable against us. However, he hoped that some day the item would appear in the Territorial Estimates. He certainly believed that we were as much entitled to

POSSESSION OF EVERY ACRE

of public lands as was any of the provinces. The bargain with the Hudson's Bay Company, by which a paltry amount was paid over from the Dominion treasury, was not to buy the country but to extinguish an imaginary title. The mere fact of that bargain did not in any sense constitute ownership. He believed that when we became erected into a province we would be as much entitled to all the lands, mines, hay and timber as the other provinces which hold and derive the revenues from these sources. It would be an important, difficult and perhaps delicate task to discuss this matter in the negotiations, but he did not believe it was a matter to be left at the bare dictation of Parliament. Although Parliament possessed the right to erect a province or provinces, the question of the lands and minerals involved a larger constitutional and legal right. His own opinion was that there was a strictly legal right to depend upon, and that such right might be successfully prosecuted before the highest tribunal in the realm if necessary. (Prolonged applause.)

ONE GRAND, UNITED, STRONG PROVINCE.

There was only one way to begin the negotiations for erection as a province—not as provinces. He had had the misfortune to hear in that room an expression of a wish for division. There were no sound grounds for such a wish. Such desire was not founded upon any sound reason relating to administration or expenditure or anything else. It was an expression simply of local ambitions. He did not believe a single argument had ever been advanced in favor of division other than the desire of some locality relating to the capital establishment and the incidental local expenditure attending such establishment. (Applause.) He had heard a number of speeches but he had not yet heard a single convincing argument in favor of division. It seemed to him that there was every reason for a single province. As far as concerned administration, where was the difficulty? What point was so remote in these days of telephones, telegraphs and railways,—and in later days doubtless these conveniences would grow in scope and usefulness,—what point was so remote that the affairs of government could not be administered as well practically, so far as distance went, from the North Pole as from any other point? With one province they would avoid the elaboration of governments; they would have one strong and efficient set of machinery instead of a duplication or trebling of functionaries. So far as concerned any differences of interest or geographical location, there was not a single argument. In the Territories there was great diversity of interest, but there was no conflict of interests. He had been a member of that House for ten years and of the North-West Council which preceded it; he had, he thought, taken a fairly active share in the work, and he could say that he did not recollect any single occasion when there had been any conflict of interest upon any question raised in the House. That the situation showed diversity of interests, of conditions, of climate and of population was certain, which simply made necessary diversity of treatment. That there had been any failure to deal with the diversified interests and conditions could not be successfully charged. They frequently made exceptions in the laws in favor of different areas with different conditions. There never had been conflict. All the representatives had always had a ready hearing and had had full scope to carry out what was best for their particular part of the country. He did not mention this topic because of any indication in the House respecting conflicting interests, but there had been cries in the country, and he had heard rumors of such places as Alberta, Assiniboia and Saskatchewan. These places were never heard of in the House in relation to legislation or administration. He would strongly deprecate such cries at this particular and critical point in the history of the country. Now was the time to drop all local or conflicting questions and stand shoulder to shoulder on the important question which affected no one portion but all of the Territories as a unit. We had not yet population equal to the number of inhabitants of one eastern city, but the resources and the opportunities which were ours should nerve us to make the best effort to do the best with those resources and opportunities, and to push forward in the direction best for the future of the Territories.

NO LACK OF POLICY.

At this point Mr. Haultain stated that he feared he was taking up too much time, but there were cries of Go on, Go on. Proceeding he said he would like to make some reference to the matter of policy. He thought no one could say, even in regard to those supplementary estimates alone, that there was any lack of policy. In every item there was policy cropping up. He made a hasty review of the items. The item for civil government involved a policy,—the policy of maintaining efficient departments, developing the public service for the convenience of the people, of having the public business done systematically, and for providing machinery for carrying on the work with efficiency and economy. The items for schools were associated with their educational policy, which no one would deny was in the right direction,—a policy to give a good plain practical education to every child in the Territories, and to have the children associated and educated together without any regard to race, religion or other consideration; they had avoided a number of the delicate and difficult questions which had divided the people in some of the provinces, and to-day the Territorial system was, if not in name, in reality a national school system—if not in name, it was merely by reason of a certain constitutional right which he would not wish to, and there was no reason to, disturb. Their policy was to group all the children in the public schools regardless of class or position, creed or nationality, and their policy aimed at the extension of the system as far and as wide as the resources would allow. They paid as liberal grants to schools as any country in the world, which grants made it possible for the smallest conceivable community or collection of individuals to have a school and made it possible for nearly every child,—for every child except in very insolated localities to receive the advantages of a plain, common education. The aim of the system was to give a good common education rather than to support the higher branches. The Government believed of course in higher education, and in time they would have to extend in that direction; but as yet they found the necessity of being strictly practical, situated as they were yet in the position of settlers and pioneers. The development of the public, common schools was the whole object as yet. The results of their policy in regard to the training of teachers they could look upon already with pride. The Territories were becoming independent of the eastern provinces in the matter of supply of teachers. Of the higher grade teachers the supply was exceeding the demand. The item for inspection of coal mines indicated a policy,—a policy to look after the interests and lives of the men toiling in the mines; the item was small but it met the actual requirements. The public works items revealed policy,—the policy to do what was required to be done as substantially as possible, and to distribute the amounts available for public works equitably between the natural divisions of the country,—a policy to provide first the most needful and important works in the way of main highways, bridges, and water supply. They had a policy respecting surveys,—very important because it concerned the means of communication with markets and between centres. In regard to Agriculture they were devising a policy in keeping with the traditions of the North-West Government. All their institutions had begun small and grown slowly. The agricultural policy now proposed was proportionate with their resources if not with their needs. The Government had recognized the necessity of action in the line of encouragement of those industries which are the foundation of all possible prosperity in this country; and as soon as money became available their policy appeared. The items under the heading of Hospitals, Charities and Public Health indicated policy,—the policy of avoiding a large number of institutions which might constitute a sort of invitation to helpless classes. The item for Yukon expenses was connected with a very distinct policy in relation to the administration of affairs in the Yukon,—a policy for which the Government claimed credit; it was a policy to assert the self governing rights of the people of the Territories and to resist the arbitrary attack of the Federal Government which attempted to take away certain of those self-governing rights. They had grappled with the difficulties of far-off conditions,—difficulties which, to judge by some of the criticisms of their policy, were extremely dangerous. But their policy shirked neither the difficulties nor the dangers. The Government took their decided stand in connection with the Yukon question not so much in their own behalf as in behalf of the self-governing machinery which members of the Government had taken considerable hard and part in obtaining for the Territories. For policy he would also point to the Statutes. He need not enumerate their laws and Ordinances, every one of which was associated with distinct policy. Some people were asking, What was the policy of the Government? In certain small communities there were men who seemed to be sitting waiting for something, for some new and brilliant scheme with which the Government would appeal to the country at the election. He might say at once that there would be no appeal to the House or to the country on any new policy, or on any policy not appearing in the Estimates or as written in every page of their Statute book. The Government's policy would not be found in flippant speeches calculated to tickle the ears and to arouse the short-lived enthusiasm of audiences, nor in bald resolutions. Their policy was one of practical legislation,—a policy to deal wisely with actual conditions for the best interest of the country and the people. The names of the Ordinances he need not repeat,—were they not written in the book of the Statutes? And could not the members of the Government reasonably claim that they had been mainly instrumental in the initiation and framing of all the legislation within the past ten years? He did not make the claim as a boast. People who were searching for the Government's policy needed only to read the Statutes and they would find a policy worthy of their time and attention and which if they followed closely enough could not fail to make them wiser and better citizens. Only one suggestion had ever been made within his knowledge by these people who clamored for a policy. He would say that the Government did not ask to be supplied with a policy by the critics. The Government was never so badly off that they needed to trouble themselves searching for policies. But in all the criticisms and in all the little remarks made by little writers in little newspapers respecting the no-policy of the Government, he had failed to see any indication of suggestion to supply the alleged lack. They did not ask their critics to make them a policy; and if the critics had suggested policies the Government would likely have been glad not to be able to accept them. But approaching the end of a term of the Assembly, the critics ought to come down and be a little more definite. It would certainly be unfair to ask them to give away their hands, if they hold any hands, but they should surely be able to show where there had been deficiency,—to show that where, concerning any individual, class or interest, action had been demanded, action had not been taken. It was surely time now for these dumb oracles to speak. But they speak not, and there is heard only the general and unsatisfactory statement that the Government have no policy. From now on he was going to say in answer to that statement, What policy? Policy upon what? The policy of the Government was crystallized upon the pages of the statute book of the Territories. They had so dealt with every subject calling for attention that in all the criticisms there was failure to show any deficiencies. On the question of Dominion political lines in local affairs, the Government had a distinct policy. The Government's belief was that there was sufficiently important business in the Assembly and to be dealt with by the Government upon which party divisions could arise, and when the divisions came the Government would be prepared to take their own part and fight out their own side. But they would oppose the introduction of lines and names and cries which had nothing to do with the business entrusted to the Government and to the House. The single item of suggested deficiency in their policy was in respect of immigration. In one sense the Government did not have a policy on that subject. They attempted nothing in the way of fitting out agents to scour the byways of the world and compel people to come here. They did not have a policy because they did not have jurisdiction. In the North-West constitution the subject of immigration was expressly left out. They had no legal right to deal with the subject. But on the other hand even if they had the right they would not do differently. Their policy relating to immigration, for they had a policy, was a solid policy to attempt to meet the needs of the people who are in the country and the people who may come to the Territories, by providing roads, bridges and means of communication, schools and other useful institutions throughout the country so as to be available for all, even for those settled in remote parts; to provide economical and efficient administration of the laws, and to make good laws suitable and applicable to the peculiar and particular conditions of the Territories. The Government did not propose legislation because similar laws had been adopted in Ontario or anywhere else. They endeavored to make laws suitable to the conditions of the people and localities of this country. They believed that this was a good immigration policy,—to provide ready means of communication in the country, to promote a harmonious state of society, and to assist in making the conditions of the communities of the country such that people could live in them and be prosperous and contented. They provided roads and bridges, good schools and good institutions of all necessary, advisable and possible kinds, with this object. They offered to people seeking homes a country free from debt and practically free from taxation; and the Government believed that, in the financial position of the Assembly, their immigration policy was the best which could be devised for years to come. Mr. Haultain thanked the House for the patient hearing given an exceedingly long and, he was afraid, dry speech. He had detailed the Estimates, and hoped he had not overlooked any material fact or important point. He trusted that the Estimates would meet the views of the House and if passed adequately meet the idea of helping all the interests of the country and maintain efficiently the public service. Having spoken a little more than three hours the Premier sat down amid the enthusiastic plaudits of the members.

MR. MOWAT (SOUTH REGINA) said that in the absence of the leader of the Opposition and his first lieutenant, it would devolve upon himself to make some reply to the able deliverance the House had listened to, and he felt quite unequal to the task. However, he had always assumed the role of opposition to his friend the hon. leader of the Government. He recognised in Mr. Haultain an able leader,—the ablest man in the House and the best fitted to fulfil the duties of the position he occupied. But there was necessity for some opposition. It did not matter how good a Government was, there were bound to be some flaws in its acts,—something to pick a hole in, and to which improvement might be suggested. But to criticise so able and lucid an exposition as given that day by Mr. Haultain was not an easy matter. He would have to go back to last year's Estimates for points to criticise. The leader had made very clear explanation of the necessity of increase in the civil service, but he thought the increase was going beyond the ability of the country. There was no tangible evidence of increase in the population equal to the increase in the service. He could not understand why the departmental work had grown so largely. The Government were lavish and extravagant in the salaries. These should not be guaged by salaries paid in the East.

Mr. Haultain—Certainly not, they should be larger here.

Mr. Mowat thought they should be guaged by the ability of the country to pay. He admitted that living costs a little more here. They had one official drawing more salary than the leader of the Government.

Mr. Haultain—That may easily be remedied.

Mr. Mowat thought the members of the Government were getting as much as the country could afford to pay. If they were in the East undoubtedly they would be worth higher salaries, because the provinces were better able to pay. When the Government saw ahead financial hard times, as the House had been told, they should have guarded against that day by curtailing the expenses. Another official drawing a high salary was the deputy public works commissioner. He would not deprecate that official's ability; he was no doubt the best man for the position, and, in the rich provinces, would be worth all he received. But the Territories could not afford to pay such high-priced men. Mr. Mowat condemned the Government because the Consolidated Ordinances were not printed. The expenditure upon the consolidation last year was largely wasted. The Government had of course explained the failure to print. They said tenders were called, and the lowest tenderer refused to agree to turn out the work within the time desired. Even after the explanation he (Mr. Mowat) still felt that some other reason existed. Perhaps the time limit was put on to prevent the successful tenderer from doing the work. The Government said that other tenderers were ready to do it within the time. Mr. Mowat believed there was one other party who could do it because he had a great part of the work up in type. Possibly the Government knowing this and wanting their favorite to get the work put on the time limit for the purpose of giving their friend the contract.

Mr. Haultain—Name the friend.

Mr. Mowat—Make your own inference.

Mr. Haultain—By what we are hearing this afternoon, it is hard to know who are one's friends.

Mr. Mowat—Oh, you have quite a number.

Mr. Haultain—Hear, hear.

Turning to the matter of the Peace River road expenditure, Mr. Mowat noticed that the House heard none of the eloquence which the member for Victoria and other Northern Alberta members poured forth last year respecting the Edmonton route. The Assembly had been lamentably short sighted in voting money towards that road. The money was thrown away. Parties who were misled and who went in by Edmonton were now coming back and cursing the route. The House no doubt felt the humiliation of the mistake. Anyway the silence on the subject of the Edmonton route this session was a great contrast to the noise made last session. The Commissioner of Public Works had had a pleasant excursion over the road, but the House had got no inkling relating to the trip, excepting its cost ($100). He could not cavil at the cost.

Mr. Maloney—Very cheap.

Mr. Mowat said the opening of the road put more money in Mr. Maloney's district than was justifiable. He had noticed last year that Mr. Maloney had been hobnobbing a great deal with the Commissioner no doubt making good use of Irish blarney. The result was to be seen in the amounts spent in St. Albert. Mr. Mowat condemned the taking over of the Irrigation administration. The Government refused to touch immigration, quite rightly. They should have refused to touch irrigation as well. It was argued that irrigation was an assistance to certain settlers, but the interest and assistance were not wide spread. In any case the settlers were not deprived of irrigation before. There had been irrigation legislation for several years. The taking over of the department was premature. It was another department taken over unnecessarily before the time was ripe. Referring to what he termed the very able reports of Mr. Dennis respecting the benefits of the transfer, Mr. Mowat said he thought that Mr. Dennis, when he advised that the administration could be done at Regina for half what it was costing at Ottawa, was looking out for himself. It was a mistake to accept the administration for less than it had been costing. Ever cent should have been demanded. And he believed that Mr. Dennis was getting an extra $900 through the transfer. (Several members,—Hear, hear.) Mr. Mowat held that the deputy commissioner should give his whole time to the department for which the Assembly paid him $2,000. The Public Works Estimates were so mixed that Mr. Mowat could not understand them nor distinguish them. Each member might be able to find his own, but one could not tell what the other fellow was getting. It was bad policy to imitate the provincial and Dominion plan of making the Estimates intricate.

Mr. Maloney—How did you manage to find the St. Albert items?

Mr. Mowat found fault became no printed statement of the estimated revenues had been given the House. (Mr. Haultain at once sent to Mr. Mowat a type-written statement.) He had no fault to find with Mr. Robson's appointment as law clerk. He had recognised as far back as his first session in the House the serious need of a law clerk. The first break he made in the House was with a new school bill, the provisions of which bill he took pride in saying were still the main provisions of the school law. In fact the school law emanated from himself, although somewhat improved since he introduced it. But when he brought in that bill and ever since he had seen the need of a law clerk. The appointment was a good one. Mr. Robson was one of the ablest lawyers in the country. He had known him from boyhood, and had the greatest respect for him both in regard to ability and application. He did not agree with the next appointment, that of Mr. Peterson as Agriculture deputy. What were his qualifications? With a small primitive department it was a mistake to allot a salary as high as $1,200. The department was only of minor importance as yet.

Hon. members—No, no.

As to public works Mr. Mowat had no complaint to make for his own district. He admitted that the principle of not equally dividing between electoral districts was proper. In the Education items the Premier had omitted to explain the vote for paying certain district debentures; he had not referred to that among the various policies he enunciated. Mr. Mowat opposed the principle of paying the debenture indebtedness of school districts which have failed through the removal of inhabitants. It was a dangerous precedent to establish. The money lenders when they advance money know the risks they assume, and should bear the risks. He could see no reason for the vote. The plan to initiate agricultural experimental work he also opposed. That matter devolved upon the Dominion. The Dominion's work at Indian Head was bearing good results. The North-West lacked the means to cope with such, and the vote the House was asked to pass was too small to do any good. He looked at the scheme as an election dodge. The policy would be heralded in the newspapers. Every Tom, Dick, and Harry would think they had just the ability for farm instructors and just the right farm for the experiments, and they would apply to Mr. Ross, who with $2,500 was going to do the whole business. Mr. Ross would say, Just hold on, we can't attend to this thing all at once. Before the refusal would have to be given the elections would be over. If the Assembly could prevail on the Dominion to spread their experiments, it would be good policy. He would favor asking the Dominion to do so, and it would be all right to assist the Dominion with $2,500, but he thought that amount unaided would not accomplish much. He had heard they were to have a new scheme respecting agricultural societies. Where was it gone to? Mr. Ross had submitted a printed plan or sketch of a new scheme before the Agricultural Committee; he seemed to have taken back water. Personally he approved the scheme, and only wished Mr. Ross had had the back bone to press it. On the Yukon question Mr. Mowat said he had never questioned the advisability of the Government's policy. They were to be commended for grappling with the situation. His objection was that action was not taken early enough, and he could not agree with the Premier's statement that the Legislature had no power to pass ordinances on the subject of Yukon liquor. He claimed that the Legislature had the power after the 1st Oct., 1897. The Government should have taken the House into its confidence. The House rose on 15th Dec., and on 28th Dec. orders in council were being passed. The claim was made that the Government could not act because they were poverty stricken. Mr. Haultain certainly knew that the $6,000 was coming.

Mr. Haultain—No.

Mr. Mowat said the Government knew that the Lieut.-Governor had been issuing liquor permits.

Mr. Haultain—No.

Mr. Mowat held that in any case the Government should have got the sanction of the House for their course. It was strange that of the emissaries sent out a part had returned and of the other part they could get no word. There was something wrong. There was a nigger in the fence. The Government should feel anxious in that peculiar circumstance. He expected that they would have sent a special messenger to meet Mr. Bulyea and hurry him up. He would like to know where Bulyea was. Perhaps he was afraid to come back and give an account. Bulyea was a strong temperance man and perhaps had made a muddle of the business. Perhaps he had instituted a temperance question or a question of prohibition in the Yukon. Concluding, Mr. Mowat said he would like to go at the Executive Council, but they were good fellows, and in one way he hated to pitch into them. Now that he was leaving the House, he hoped that he enjoyed their good will. They had had their tilts, and often he had been called down, but he was not thin skinned. The five executive councillors were men of ability. In fact he thought that the ability of the House sat on the right side of Mr. Speaker, where he himself had his seat. Mr. Haultain was a good first minister, and Mr. Ross was a capable, amiable and agreeable first lieutenant. Of the remaining members, one perhaps devoted a little too much attention to bridging in Mitchell district; another was hidden away in the golden north. With the fifth (Mr. Magrath) he had had a tilt recently, but was free to say he believed Mr. Magrath was a good, honest representative, although he perhaps did look after the interests of his employers too much, as was evidenced by his frequent absences from the House and also by some of the bills he introduced in the
Mr. Mowat said he expected to g
shot and shell in return for his c
but he would endeavor to take t
with good nature. (Applause.)

MR. MALONEY
said that he believed the mem
both South and North Regina w
no objection to doing away eitir
the district of St. Albert. If Mr
would study the report of the
sioner of Public Works upon the
of Statute Labor done in St. Al
compare it with the work in So
gina, he would get a better idea
reason for the difference in the
there was a difference. If Mr.
had looked after South Regina a
as he was looking after St. Alb
Maloney thought he might be liv
yet instead of leaving the distric
after itself. Referring to Mr.
attack on the Peace River road,
loney said that a portion of the
in his district. Mr. Ross had
two or three hundred miles in S
but had seen only a small portio
district. It was a district entitl
good grant. The Statute Labo
showed that in St. Albert before
ter became compulsory more w
done voluntarily in one season t
done in South Regina and sever
districts in many seasons. I
nothing about any hobnobbing
Commissioner. Mr. Mowat had
sermon in the agriculture line.
celebrated school bill, which he h
ed about, he had provided for a
in the schools, there would not b
need now of an agricultural poli
to the Yukon route Mr. Malone
was through no fault of the E
route that people turned back.
from Edmonton to St. Albert w
hard road, but some of the peo
thought to go to Yukon were unfit
able to follow the telegraph line fr
monton to St. Albert. Men whe
how to travel succeeded on the Ed
route, and he could show some
from the efforts of one man w
in that way. (Mr. Maloney exh
nugget attached to his chain).
whole Mr. Maloney felt like con
ing the member for South Reg
always managed to say something
er what he said was to the point
was of course a different matter.

At 5:30 o'clock Mr. Speaker
chair. When the House resume
o'clock the first member to take
was

MR. TIMS, (VICTORIA
who replied to statements made
Mowat against the Peace Riv
Mr. Tims considered the expend
been petty considering the impo
the work. The road had no
bearing on the Yukon route
Ten years ago, before the Yu
heard of, the opening of a road
River had been petitioned for.
were extensive settlements at Pe
er and also at Slave Lake. A
River there were three mills, an
Lake there was a mill. Mills
erected and operated where there
settlers. But the settlements we
capped by having no outlet e
water. The opening of the r
benefitted not only Peace River
monton and Canada at large. M
went in this year with their mind
gold, when they saw the kind of
there was at Peace River decided
mence farming there, and the ro
ed up a country which would be a
of wealth to the Dominion. In
the road the Assembly was looki
the interests of people who, althe
remote part, were just as much
of the Territories as any other pe
to the miners, or so-called mine
were returning unsuccessful, M
said that of the men who went
northern district to search for g
one in ten was a genuine miner, a
of them were unfitted to be let l
side of city limits. In March
Town of Edmonton engaged Mr.
lor to make a trip to Pelly Ban
made the trip, went 30 miles d
Pelly river, and was back at E
in July, which proved that the r
not extremely difficult for any
knew how to travel. M
was glad that the Commissioner
Works had had the courage of hi
tions to proceed with the openin
Peace River road, and had had th
as well to make a trip over the r
Ross and Mr. McCauley made
over 260 miles of the road in six
not bad travelling. Mr. Tims g
tails of some of the business wh
opening of the road had already
showing that from points in M
also Battleford, Qu'Appelle, India
horses and stock had been sent
movement which the road was wh
be credited with. He comput
$100,000 in cash had been circula
year by it. Dr. Dawson stated t
best place to prospect for coarse g
just over the first range of mou
From Peace River access could be
that region; it was only 300 mile
Peace River, through a country
either wagon road or railway.
Peace River there was access also
Nelson river, and up a branch to t
of Fort Halkett; and up the Li
ley on to Lake Francis, and to th
waters of the Yukon. No wiser
ture had been made than that u
opening of the road. Before sitti
the speaker heartily congratulat
Haultain upon his able, concise a
nesslike speech on the budget.

MR. AGNEW, (W. PRINCE AL
expressed gratification with Mr. Ha
very clear statement of the affairs
Territories. He endorsed the
policy, and thought action had be
en just in the nick of time. The
had proved a success financially an
wise. The institution of an Agri
Department Mr. Agnew believed
good move. At present the great
ity of farmers never get to see the
mental farms. He believed the
for promotion of stock interests w
ible. The heavy freights prevente
men from bringing in thoroughbre
The barrier had already been part
moved by the railway companies,
was high yet, and the Governmen
would be a great assistance. He
isfied with the brands registrati
with its administration; and his
was that a law clerk had not been
long ago; many errors of leg
might have been saved. The incr
schools and in the number of high
teachers was bound to be pleasing
He regretted that no mention had
made of the French settlement s
Mr. Haultain had visited those
ments, and Mr. Agnew had expec
hear that the schools would be re-o
they ought to be re-opened with t
having both languages. The peopl
unable to provide their own teache
unable to carry on the business of a
district. Their farms were very
the hunting and freighting they we
deprived of. Their old modes of
hood had been taken away from
The children were no duller than c
and should not be deprived of educ
The parents were anxious that
children should be taught English a
as French, recognising that English
the chief language of the country.