

Agnew opposed the payment of defunct school district debentures, and recommended the proposal to obtain a new Territorial map. As to the salary of the deputy in the agriculture department, he thought it looked large, but if the gentleman was qualified for the position it was not large enough to complain against. He noticed an item of \$75.00 for a Speaker's chair. That was not a large sum for a good chair, but care should be exercised in its selection. There was a small man in the House who wore a hat so large that it had to be padded; perhaps the man expected the head to swell, but that was impossible; the head was already as large as it ever would be. In buying a chair, one should be got which would not need to be padded.

Hon. members—Order order.

Mr. Speaker.—The point of order is not well taken. The hon. gentleman's own sense of good taste will prevent him making any statement against one whose person prevents any reply.

Mr. Agnew.—I am very sorry, Mr. Speaker, that your position muzzles you.

After brief references to the hospitals, etc., and the work of agricultural societies, Mr. Agnew concluded his remarks.

**MR. EAKIN (SALT COATS),** had no great fault to find with the supplementary estimates. The first grant for the salary of a law clerk supplied a long time ago. It had been used to feel, particularly before the constitution was changed and when he had been personally as much responsible for legislation as the members of the executive committee, that he was at a loss because of the lack of some legal man around the House to whom all the members would have a right to go to get their ideas put in proper legislative form. Before entering upon any remarks, Mr. Eakin felt that he should compliment the hon. leader upon the speech he had made that day. Mr. Eakin had heard speeches by the renowned men in other Assemblies and Parliaments; and he had never heard a more lucid explanation of any position than Mr. Haultain had given that day, a statement and a speech which would have been creditable in any Parliament in Canada. If in time Mr. Haultain decided so choose a different or a larger sphere, Mr. Eakin had no doubt that he would be found fitted for spheres even more exalted than the one he now occupied. Respecting Mr. Peterson, the Agriculture deputy, the member for Saltcoats believed he was a very well qualified man. He knew that Mr. Peterson had brought out order after order in the brand matter, and had been able to put the system on an orderly and businesslike basis. Perhaps the Government had been a little premature in changing the system, or had not given themselves long enough time to bring about the change; but it was easier to tear than to mend a hole. If the House had taken more time in putting through the mass of legislation passed last year, there might be less time required the next year in considering those laws. But no doubt many mistakes would have been avoided if they had had a deputy Attorney General. On the Yukon question he held that the Government was perfectly exonerated, all the circumstances, in not having made up its mind in time to take the House into its confidence last year. The right action had at all events been taken. There was no possibility of preventing liquor going into the Yukon. If prohibition had been attempted, high wine and spirits dangerous to health and life would have been smuggled in. He would have censured the Government if action had not been taken to regulate the traffic. From the moral point of view their course was commendable. The N.W.M. Police could carry out regulations, but could not make them. Mr. Eakin did not want Mr. Mowat to leave the country without full credit for the school bill he had introduced, but he had learned before he came to Regina, he had never heard it mentioned that Mr. Mowat was only a sort of godfather to the bill, which had been largely compiled by a legal gentleman in the House.

Mr. Mowat—I do my that.

Mr. Eakin cheerfully accepted the denial. In any event very important principles of the school law had been changed. Mr. Mowat's bill came down, and for the change the Government and other members were responsible. All the members were entitled to some credit for the legislation on the statute books. Up to last year every member was responsible for legislation. Formerly there were 29 equally responsible legislators. All had the privilege and the duty, equally with the Government, to bring in bills. Within the one year since full responsible government came in vogue, there had been two sessions; and in these sessions the Government had shown a spirit of commendable progress. They were to be congratulated upon their ideas of development, and upon the modification and simplification of old laws, so that he who might read. The educational progress was gratifying and was the direct result of the new system of grants. This year only 18 per cent. of lowest grade teachers were in the service. The old system had by standards, not by grades. Under the present system trustees could engage 2nd class teachers at no greater cost to the district than 3rd class, and they thus got better education. The country schools especially required well qualified teachers, because in the country schools one teacher had to handle all the standards. Mr. Eakin did not wholly approve the present system of public works administration in all its bearings. The district engineers' work was not altogether a success. In this sparsely settled country, with people living a far apart, it was sometimes impossible to get tender and contract work done reasonably. He had two cases in mind. Only two men tendered, and their figures were far above the engineer's estimate. The reasonable belief was that the contractors had made a combination. Then again, the district engineers had such extensive districts that they could not pay full attention to all parts. The system needed some change. Where the Statute Labour Overseer was a good man, he would not be likely to employ him. Mr. Eakin warmly approved of day labor in preference to tenders. In view of the failure to print the Consolidated Ordinances this year, it was unfortunate that more copies of last year's Ordinances were not obtained for distribution. Inability to procure printed copies of the law had caused some dissatisfaction. If the Board of Trade had been put in the hands of the people much anxiety would have been relieved. He regretted Mr. Mowat's allusion to the Public Works deputy. His own impression was that, judging by his ability and the value of his work, Mr. Dennis was the most ill-paid man in the service. Mr. Dennis was one who did not spare himself; his illness last summer had been directly due to overwork. Mr. Mowat's inaccuracy about the \$900 he absolutely refused to believe, although he had no information about the matter. But if his ability to judge character was not a man who would do such a thing. He approved the plan to encourage improved stock breeding, but wanted to know how the plan was to be carried out.

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**MR. McDONALD (FR. QU'APPELLE)** spoke as a comparatively new member. He had read that great latitude was allowed on the motion to go into supply, but confessed that he had no idea of the length to which members might go. He was satisfied with the civil service policy of the Government—with the manner of appointment, and with the plan of paying good salaries to good men. The Rt. Hon. J. S. Chamberlain had explained the reason of the better management of public institutions in Great Britain than in the United States, by the statement that in Great Britain it was the policy to employ technical men for technical work and where the best available man was secured, he was paid whatever salary was necessary to retain him. It appeared to Dr. Patrick that the North-West Government had adopted this wise policy. Their bond in the Education branch was a man of unquestioned reputation, whose mere presence in the Territories drew attention to that country. His salary was not too large for a man of his standing. If it was an evil thing to pay the official a higher salary than was paid to be found in the department over which Mr. Dennis was placed, the department which handled an immense volume of business connected with statute labor and other public works. He understood the department had been bringing up all arrears of work, and he had no difficulty in believing that the illness from which Mr. Dennis suffered was the result of over work; his illness had been a loss, and the Government would likely have heard him (Dr. Patrick) growling only that he knew Mr. Dennis was ill. Mr. Mowat admitted his belief that Mr. Dennis earned the salary; it followed that there must be work for him to do. If there was not work he could not earn his salary. It followed again that if the salary was not paid the work would be left undone. Mr. Peterson, the Agricultural deputy, was a new man, not a native Canadian, but a Dane. Such being the case, it was patent that no family "pull" or influence gave him the position. He must have gained the position by some reason existing in himself. It spoke well for a foreigner that he was able to rise in this way by his own worth. He had been sizing up Mr. Peterson and was very favorably impressed. He noticed since Mr. Peterson's bill came down, and for the change the Government and other members were responsible. All the members were entitled to some credit for the legislation on the statute books. Up to last year every member was responsible for legislation. Formerly there were 29 equally responsible legislators. All had the privilege and the duty, equally with the Government, to bring in bills. Within the one year since full responsible government came in vogue, there had been two sessions; and in these sessions the Government had shown a spirit of commendable progress. 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