

That gentleman was no less a person than Mr. Sam Jackson, M.P. (Laughter.)

Irresponsible Jackson

This statement of Mr. Jackson's was brought to the notice of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. What did he say? Did he endorse Jackson's statement? On the contrary, he told the house that he understood Mr. Jackson and two or three other members had a little meeting, but without the knowledge of the government of the day, and that no notice whatever could be taken of their agreement with respect to the extension of the boundaries. On May 9, Sir Wilfrid spoke:

"I could not say anything further than what I have already stated, that it is the intention at some early date, as soon as the provinces are organized, to have a conference of representatives of the provinces of Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan, with a view of disposing especially of that section of territory which is now held in reserve, which is part of the present territory of Saskatchewan, but which was not included in the new province of Saskatchewan, and further also in regard to the territory of Keewatin. As is well known by my hon. friend and by members of the house generally, the province of Manitoba claims that they should have the whole of the territory of Keewatin added to their own province. The province of Ontario has, through Mr. Whitney, made a claim, not to that extent, but exacting that no disposal of such territory should be made unless they are consulted in the matter. I understand, and I have reason to believe that the province of Saskatchewan will lay claim to a portion of the territory. Of course, the province of Saskatchewan has no voice in the matter, it cannot speak officially now, but as far as the attitude of those who have a right to speak for it is concerned, I expect that such a claim will be made. As to the disposal of this territory, at the present time, I have no suggestion to offer, and I do not know how far it would be possible for me even to say that I have an opinion in the matter."

The Only Quarrel

Sir Wilfrid told us that he would send for us again. We waited for several days, but did not receive the request we anticipated. However, Mr. Campbell received the following letter from another gentleman, his excellency, Mgr. Sharretti, asking us to meet him, which he did:

"Apostolic Delegation.

"Ottawa, Feb. 20, 1905.

"The Hon. Collin Campbell.

"Attorney-General of Manitoba.

"Russell House, Ottawa.

"Honorable Sir,—I am directed by his excellency Mgr. Sharretti,

apostolic delegate to Canada, to write to you to say that he would be pleased to see you before your return to Manitoba, if you could find it convenient to come to the delegation. You will kindly let me know, if you can come and when you will be pleased to do so.

"ALFRED A. SINNOTT,

"Secretary.

"Canal Driveway, 2 N. Bank street."

Mgr. Sharretti requested Mr. Campbell to take back to Manitoba the following clauses, and politely intimated that if we would place this law in force on the statute books of our province, that from the standpoint of view of the Manitoba government some action on these lines would be politically expedient, and tend to facilitate the accomplishment of our object in making the request for an extension of our boundaries:

"Add to section 125.—(b).—And when in any city or town there shall be thirty or more Roman Catholic children, and also thirty or more non-Roman Catholic children or in any village more than fifteen of each of such classes, the trustees, shall, if requested by a petition of parents or guardians of such number of such classes, provide separate accommodation for each of such classes and employ for them respectively Roman Catholic and non-Roman Catholic teachers.

"Add to section 49.—(b).—And when in any district there shall be fifteen or more Roman Catholic children, and fifteen or more non-Roman Catholic children, the trustees shall, if required by a petition of parents or guardians of such number of either of such classes, provide separate accommodation for each of such classes and employ for them respectively Roman Catholic and non-Roman Catholic teachers."

The Point at Issue

This is the point at which we take issue, claiming as we do that the question of the establishment of separate schools in this province has nothing whatever to do with the matter of the extension of our boundaries, and in this contention I am sure that we are endorsed alike by Roman Catholics and Protestants in this country, and I am sure there is not to be found in Manitoba one single, solitary Roman Catholic citizen, no matter how anxious he may be for the re-establishment of separate schools, who would come out and take the position that Sir Wilfrid Laurier takes, which is that the extension of our boundaries must be contingent upon the re-establishment of separate schools. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, there is, and there can be, no quarrel either between the government of this country and the Roman Catholics, or between the Roman Catholics and the Protestants of this