

air, which tends to ascend, and the cool air from the lower openings would take its place. I do not know why architects have never made any attempt to improve the ventilation in that way, which seems to me the most natural way to ventilate.

#### HALF BREED SCRIP.

Mr. FOSTER. Before the Orders of the Day are called, I would like to ask the Prime Minister if the government has come to any conclusion with reference to the investigation or the carrying out of the process before the scrip commissioners.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. My hon. friend asked if the government had employed counsel. I may say that we have not come to a conclusion as yet. I will give an answer to my hon. friend to-morrow.

Mr. FOSTER. I think this is somewhat important. To-day is the 4th of July, that place is somewhat distant, Winnipeg is somewhat distant from here, and if proper preparation is to be made, some time must be given to counsel to procure witnesses and get the evidence in shape. As an evidence of what is taking place, I may read the following telegram :

Rolla, North Dakota, June 24.—Emissaries of a real estate firm in Canada have been here for some days endeavouring to find out the half-breeds who are likely to go to Killarney next month to give evidence in the scrip scandal investigation to be held there. It is said many of the older half-breeds, who are likely to give damaging evidence, have received large sums of money to go to the mountains about that time. It is also said that a notary public of North Dakota who signed many papers in blank, is holding the firm in question up for a large amount and threatens if he does not get his price there will be startling revelations. There is great unrest in the case here.

My right hon. friend must see that it is worth a great deal to these parties to get incriminating evidence out of the way, and they are able to pay, and pay royally, for doing it.

#### THE NIXON INVESTIGATION.

Mr. FOSTER. I would like also to ask the government whether they are yet able to inform the House whether or not they are going to have a thorough investigation made into the Nixon case. Evidence has been sent to me to prove: that the boy Nixon was not in the office when the money was stolen, that all the receipts were signed by the elder Nixon himself, that the son never left the country, that he always lived at Macleod, except for a few days spent at Frank and Blair, that he was much on the surveys and was not always engaged in the office, and that the elder Nixon did all the work and took all the money, and that the proof of these facts is abundant if an opportunity is given for it to be utilized. One feature of the case which is probably more

important than any other, as it stands to-day, is that this young boy has been branded and marked for life. He is either innocent or guilty. If he is not guilty, it is a wretched outrage to brand him as guilty, and send him out to live his forty or fifty or sixty years of life with that brand upon him.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. I informed my hon. friend the other day that I had asked the Minister of the Interior to look into the different allegations and prepare a report. My hon. friend knows that we have been very busy, and he cannot wonder that all these things have not yet been attended to; but they will be attended to.

#### THE KENTVILLE RIFLE RANGE.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. I wish to draw the attention of the government to the fact that the report of the evidence taken in regard to the Kentville or Aldershot rifle range in Nova Scotia will cost upwards of \$100 to be copied. It is rather a heavy expense, but I would respectfully draw the attention of the government to the necessity of having it copied, so that the House may be in possession of the report.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. My hon. friend must remember that the matter was referred to the Exchequer Court, and I apprehend that there must be a printed copy of the report.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. I do not know anything about it personally, but my information comes from the officers of the Exchequer Court.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. I will find out to-morrow how the matter stands.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. I do not think it can be printed, because I understand that the proceedings before the judge of the Exchequer Court are not printed at all.

#### PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT IN THE NORTHWEST.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER moved second reading of Bill (No. 70) to establish and provide for the government of the province of Saskatchewan.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. Mr. Speaker, I do not propose to discuss this Bill. The debate which took place on the second reading of the corresponding Bill (No. 69), was very exhaustive, and it is not worth while at this stage of the session to repeat any portion of it. I shall therefore content myself, for the reasons which I gave at that time, with moving:

That all the words after the word 'that' to the end of the question be left out and the following substituted therefor :

Upon the establishment of a province in the Northwest Territories of Canada as proposed by Bill (No 70) the legislature of such province, subject to and in accordance with the provi-