

AUTONOMY, PROVINCIAL, IN THE NORTH-WEST—*Con.*

*Schaffner, F. L.* (Souris)—4622.

House may differ in details, unanimous that the time is ripe for autonomy—4623. Should have extended Manitoba and made one new province—4624. Prosperity of the western country due to the Liberal-Conservative party—4625. Quotes Blake and Tupper in 1875—4626. Twenty-five years ago Manitoba was the experimental farm—4627. Government did not consider the whole question when they declined to extend Manitoba westward—4628. Roblin government, through Canadian Northern, greatly reduced rates—4629. Quotes Sifton on the land policy—4629-30. Prosperity has come because of sound national policy—4631. Cannot understand how Fielding and Emmerson can advocate a system which connects church and state—4632. Quotes Davies and Mills in 1891—4633. Other people in the west have same right to claim special privilege as the Catholics—4634. Quotes Tarte against church schools—4635. No government could live a week in Manitoba that tried to alter the present school system—4636. Thinks there is good evidence Catholics do not want separate schools—4637. Quotes J. J. Gregor, of Lacombe—4637-8-9-40-1. Prime Minister spent his whole time trying to convince his own party—4642. The schools are clearly a matter for the people of the provinces themselves—4643.

*Scott, Walter* (West Assiniboia)—3042.

Is there any compulsion in the province of Quebec to exercise what are called the minority rights?—3042.

That ordinance is not embodied in the Bill—3151.

This legislation removes any defects that may exist in the present ordinance—3349. McCarthy will not contend that these ordinances are ultra vires after these Bills have passed this House—3350. Could they not have passed identical orders in council which will be validated by this Bill?—3351.

I was undertaking to remind Lancaster that that was done in the case of Manitoba—3438. That was what parliament did in 1870 in the case of Manitoba—3439. Will Sproule deny that he wrote letters to residents of the Northwest Territories, even before these Bills were introduced?—3515.

We are proposing to round out the confederation of half, and probably the richer half, of the North American continent—3591. Upon the importance of the subject of education there is no occasion to comment here—3592. There can be no question and magnitude of the questions involved in the Bills—3593. It was the class of speech which the true friend of the Northwest felt it proper to make—3594. It is a proposition that on the face of it would be looked upon with favour by every resident of the Northwest Territories—3595. Before the residents of the Northwest Territories will be able to accept his proposition they will want to know what class of schools he means—3596. A system of schools which is ab-

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solutely satisfactory to Protestant and Catholic alike—3597. I was commenting upon the violent difference between the purport of the amendment and the direct suggestion—3598. There has been practically no net revenue from these lands in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories—3599. This is one feature in these provincial establishment proposals with regard to which I think less than justice has been meted out—3600. The people I represent were unanimously against the extension of the Manitoba boundaries westward—3601. My own advice was that the present eastern boundary of Alberta should be selected as the dividing line—3602. Analyses show that these revenues will yield at the beginning on the present population \$4.10 per capita—3603. Of course, any autonomy proposition is a matter of comparison. There is no such thing as absolute autonomy—3604. The terms which have been granted to the people of the Northwest Territories, while not over generous, are fair—3605. It is absolutely better for the people of those new provinces to have the lands administered here—3603. The Conservative party, if they had the making of these proposals, would not have granted as good financial terms—3607. We have brought about an exceedingly favourable result, in seven or eight years doubling the total revenue of this Dominion—3608. I do not think I could find any better authority on this subject than Mr. Haultain—3609. The matter of education is one of very prime importance, the most important matter to the people of any province—3610. Mr. Foster said of that provision that it was the sine qua non of the Protestant minority of their entrance into confederation—3611. It was inserted for what was expected to be the Protestant minority in the territory lying west of the great lakes—3612. We must remember that it was for Protestant minorities, as well as for the Roman Catholic minorities, that this protection was placed—3613. The principle of protection for minority rights is there in the constitution—3614. I say that every item proposed by the government is in strict observance of these principles—3615. The Bill is in strict harmony with that motto, a free west, a common school, provincial rights and religious equality—3616. There is a limitation in Ontario with regard to schools which we do not want to apply in Alberta and Saskatchewan—3617. I merely give it as an expression of a spirit which unfortunately is evident sometimes—3618. What we are legislating for is a common school—not a church or ecclesiastical school—but a common school system—3619. I understand Sproule to contend that he has had no part in endeavouring to engineer an agitation in the Territories—3620. As a matter of fact, this legislation was not brought into existence by local legislature, but initiated by this parliament—3621. Now, Mr. Haultain, in his letter, has stated that he was consult-