

The Chatham Evening Planet.

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CHATHAM ONT., THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 1905

NO 52

DRESS MAKING.

Our Dress Making Department under the charge of Miss Sangster will open on Thursday next March 2nd. Miss Sangster comes to us with the very highest recommendations and we are prepared to guarantee her work to be satisfactory. In this department we make a specialty of skirts and shirt-waists and the charges are very moderate. Miss Sangster will be in the store Wednesday afternoon ready to interview any intending purchasers.

Our Dress Making Department under the charge of Madam Skiving will be open on Monday next March 6th. To secure early delivery of your order it would be well to place them at once.

Embroidery for Tomorrow

10 pieces fine white Swiss embroidery various widths and styles, good materials, neatly worked, dainty designs on silk, tomorrow very special value at a yd. 50c

Shantung Silks

Raw silks are very correct for waists and suits this season. We have just received a shipment of very choice lines in good, even weaves and fine bright finish. 26 in. wide at 85c
34 in. wide at 70c
34 in. wide at \$1.00

Shanghai Silks

This is a silk that is absolutely free from dressing, made of a sound even thread, considerably heavier than ordinary Japan silks will wash beautifully, corners in black and ivory. It is 27 in. wide extremely suitable for waists and dresses and is especially good value at a yd. 75c

Thos. Stone & Son

PUBLIC NOTICE !

Genuine Gas Coke

From actual tests is found to contain as many heat units per ton, as the best quality of Anthracite Coal. At the reduced price now in effect, Gas Coke costs about two-thirds as much.

Moral: Use Genuine Gas Coke for furnace, range, grate or stove, and save money.

Chatham Gas Company, Limited.



THERE'S GREAT VALUE

in every garment we make, but it is especially noticeable in our

Winter Overcoats

made to order. The material is just right, and the garments have a "set" which particular men like. Come in and look at the cloth.

AITKEN & KOGELSCHATZ
NEAR FIFTH ST. BRIDGE

Mineral Baths

AT HOTEL SANITA

CURES RHEUMATISM

CHATHAM MINERAL WATER CO.

After recovering from a severe case of sickness I was so badly crippled with rheumatism in my hands that I could not raise them. I could not even button my clothes, but after bathing my hands several times in the mineral water I found in a week's time I could use them as well as ever, and now they are entirely well. This I attribute to the use of the water.

Yours respectfully,
JAMES T. McMAHON
Chatham, Ontario.

Write for Pamphlets that are furnished free upon application

RESIGNATION IS ANNOUNCED

Premier Tells of Mr. Sifton's Retirement From Cabinet.

MR. SIFTON GIVES REASONS

The Premier Declares That the Disagreement of the Ex-Minister of the Interior is Confined Altogether to the Obnoxious Clause, But the Napoleon of the West Hints at Breach of Faith.

Ottawa, March 2.—Just a week after Sir Wilfrid Laurier had made one of the most efforts of his life in introducing his autonomy bill, creating two new Provinces, and imposing Separate Schools upon them, the Premier was forced to announce the resignation of one of his Ministers, Hon. Clifford Sifton, who could not follow him in the principle embodying Separate Schools. Both he and Mr. Sifton stuck to type-written statements, but everyone in the House hung upon their words as they read them. The debate followed:

The Premier Explains. Sir Wilfrid Laurier said: "I have to inform the House that my colleague, Hon. Mr. Sifton, has resigned his position in the Government as Minister of the Interior. Mr. Sifton finds himself unable to agree with the terms of the bill which has lately been introduced for the admission into the Dominion of the Province of Alberta and Saskatchewan, his disagreement being confined altogether to the education clause. After a conference with him, the following correspondence has been exchanged between him and myself:

Ottawa, Feb. 27, 1905. Dear Sir Wilfrid,—After giving my best consideration to the matters which we discussed last evening, I have arrived at the conclusion that it is impossible for me to continue in office under present circumstances, and that it is better for all concerned that I should at once. I therefore tender my resignation of the post of Minister of the Interior, and of my position in the Government. I trust that the unhappy necessity which has arisen will not in the least impair the friendship with which you have been kind enough to honor me.

(Signed) Clifford Sifton. Sir Wilfrid's Reply.

To this I answered in the following terms:

Ottawa, Feb. 28, 1905. My Dear Sifton,—I received yesterday your letter of same date, whereby you tender me your resignation as a member of the Government. There is no alternative course to be adopted, and with much regret it will be my duty to place it in the hands of His Excellency. After our conversation of the other day, I had left you with the impression that the difference between us was more of words than of substance, and until I received your letter I had cherished the hope that to find a comparatively easy solution. I now feel more regret than I can express at this termination of our official relations, let me assure you that should our old friendship be ever impaired the fault will not be mine.

The resignation has been placed in the hands of His Excellency, who has been pleased to accept it.

Mr. Sifton Explains.

Hon. Clifford Sifton rose and was heard in silence. He said:

"The statement made by the Right Hon. the Prime Minister (Sir Wilfrid Laurier) necessitates a very short explanation to the House as to my position. When it was determined that after the last session of Parliament, legislation should be introduced creating new Provinces out of a portion of the Northwest Territories, I felt upon the view of the history of the education question in Canada, to give very serious consideration to the position which I should take with regard to the legislative power to be conferred upon the Provinces in regard to the subject of education. It was necessary that conferences should take place with members of Parliament representing the Northwest Territories, and with the representatives of the Territorial Government, upon the subject of education and other subjects involved in the bill. These conferences were unavoidably postponed until after the beginning of the new year by reason of the absence of the Prime Minister, who, after the general election, was compelled to take a short rest, and was therefore absent from the country.

Forced to Go Away.

"Shortly before the time fixed for holding these conferences, I was compelled by my own state of health to leave Ottawa, and was therefore unable to be present at the discussions which took place. Before leaving I discussed with the Prime Minister most of the subjects that necessarily required to be dealt with in the bill which was to be introduced, and so far as I was able to do so at that time I communicated my views to him upon the various subjects. I may say that when I went away I did not anticipate that the Prime Minister would be necessary to introduce the bill for creating the new Provinces before I returned. As members of the House are aware, I returned to the capital on Thursday afternoon. I immediately took occasion to read carefully the speech which the Right Hon. the Prime Minister had delivered in introducing the bill. I regretted that in the Right Hon. gentleman's address I found some principles enunciated with which I am unable to agree. On Friday, the next day after I returned, at the earliest possible moment, I procured a copy of the educational clause of the bill my leader had introduced."

Mr. Sifton then read the education clause contained in the autonomy bill,

and continued as follows:

Kicks on Educational Clauses. "That is the clause which is contained in the bill which was introduced by the Government. Between Friday, when I procured a copy of the bill, and Monday morning, I gave the subject my best consideration, and I had the privilege in the meantime of having an interview with the Prime Minister on the subject. At the result of such consideration I determined that I could not endorse or support the principles of the educational clauses. Under these circumstances, Mr. Speaker, my duty became perfectly clear, and on Monday morning I wrote to the Prime Minister, tendering my resignation as a member of the Cabinet. Subsequently, I expressed the desire that my resignation should be acted upon at once, and to that wish the Prime Minister has now assented. In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, not intending and not desiring to enter into a discussion of the merits of the matter which has caused the difference between myself and my leader, I have only to add my regret that circumstances have compelled the severance of my official relations with the leader and with my colleagues with whom I have always been of the most harmonious and pleasant character, and with whom upon other questions I am in entire accord. The circumstances, however, in my judgment, make my resignation perfectly clear, and it does not seem possible for me properly to consider anything except the principles which are involved."

Mr. Speaker. Hon. George Foster then rose to continue the discussion. He said: "Mr. Speaker, I quite agree with the Hon. gentleman, the Hon. Minister (Mr. Sifton) that it is not the time to enter upon the discussion of the principles involved in the bill. But the statements which have been read, and with the reading of the statements and the causes which make the reading of the statements necessary this afternoon, we shall have a heavy load, and with that I shall deal for a moment, with your kindly permission. It did not come as a matter of surprise to this side of the House that the Minister of the Interior should at an early period read his letter of resignation, or give his reasons for resigning to this House, nor do I think it came as a matter of surprise to the Hon. gentlemen who are within the secrets of the party on the other side of the House. We all remember the popular circumstances under which this bill appears to have been framed, and to have been rushed before the House. It is an almost unexampled thing that the bill of such importance should be framed in the absence of two of the most responsible Ministers in the House, regarding the country and the scope of the territory in which that bill was to be operative, and having respect to the declaration of policy which I think a year or two ago was made in this House, when, with some new ideas of the division of this continental responsibility, certain Ministers were to be held more or less accountable for the particular Provinces or sections from which they came, as in the case of the Hon. Minister of Agriculture. In his intermeddling with the militia matters of this country."

During Mr. Sifton's Absence. This important bill has been framed and has been laid before the House in the absence of the Hon. Minister of the Interior, who was especially charged with the supervision of and the responsibility for the Northwest Territories, and the west generally. Well, we are told to think that possibly the second chapter of what took place in an almost annual line a year or two ago was being prepared for the House and country, when it is well known that at that time a most important railway bill was conceived or formed, the war almost not quite presented to this House behind the back of the responsible Minister of Railways and Canals—(opposite applause)—whose office it should have been to have seen to it that the creation and preparation of that bill, and we were of late led still more to suppose that, from a remark which fell casually, but rather acridly, from the lips of the Right Hon. Prime Minister himself, who, not long ago, gave as his answer that it would probably be introduced at a certain time, and when some enquiring mind of the many enquiring minds of the House put the question to the Right Hon. Prime Minister as to whether the Minister of the Interior would be back by that time, the Prime Minister, as I have just related, had already decided not to know whether he would or not, but that he, the Prime Minister, would be here.

No Surprise Anywhere. "Taking all this with the history of this bill into consideration, it did not come as a surprise to this part of the House, and I doubt very much if it fell as much of a surprise upon Hon. gentlemen on the other side. But, it is a still sadder thing that the Hon. Minister of the Interior, a most important member of the Cabinet at any time, and especially an important member of the Cabinet as regards the conception and argument of this bill, did not actually know, although it is supposed that telegraph wires stretch from here to almost all parts of the United States of America, in some particular portion of which the Minister of the Interior has been for the past number of weeks, of the educational clauses of this bill until after he had returned to this city and to this House, where he had obtained a copy of the clauses. One would think that on the general theory of responsible government, of a Cabinet acting unitedly, of a Cabinet acting wisely, consulting with every unit of the Cabinet, as I think it is in duty bound to do in order to secure the wisdom of the whole of the Cabinet, that the Hon. Minister of the Interior would have been considered, but not even by telegraph or letter does it seem that the Hon. Minister of the Interior was apprised of the prominent clause in the bill which was supposed, naturally, that he would be very much

interested in. The excuse, the reason is given to-day—and we are bound to take the reason in a Parliamentary sense—that the Hon. gentleman is retiring because he could not find it consistent with his principles to accede to that particular clause in the autonomy bill. But from what I have stated, and from what we have seen, it would be easily inferred, I think, by any member of this House, that there is a reasonable doubt as to whether or not that was the cause of the resignation, as to whether the deliberate actions of the Prime Minister and the rest of the Cabinet heretofore have not made it abundantly apparent that it was, in intention, to get rid of the Hon. gentleman, whether he got out on this particular clause of the bill or some other.

Curiosity Not Satisfied.

"The Prime Minister has not quite satisfied the curiosity of the House. Outside of the information which was conveyed to us by the bulletin boards, there are other rumors which are abroad in the corridors of this House, abroad in the streets of the city, and I dare say, are making tingle the wires which stretch from Ottawa to different parts of this country even now, while we are speaking. And why? It is stated that another important Minister, another important member of the Cabinet, a Right Hon. gentleman, is deliberately waiting as to whether he shall not follow in the tracks—no, I would not put it in that way—but follow at least the example of the Hon. the Minister of the Interior, who has retired, in also expressing his formal and unequalled dissent from this bill. There might be some reasons which would impose on the idea that there is truth in that. I could hardly reconcile to myself the idea of a Prime Minister and a Cabinet undertaking to frame and put before the country such an important bill as this, involving no trivial and unimportant financial burdens, but involving very serious and continuous and growing financial burdens upon this country. I cannot, I say, understand how a bill of that kind could be conceived, put in to form and be introduced into this House in the absence of the Minister of Finance, who is responsible, if any man in the Cabinet is responsible, for the financial interests of this country."

"Was He in the Dark?"

"Was he also altogether and entirely in the dark with reference to this bill? Did he know the clauses financial or otherwise before he came back to Ottawa and ascertained what they were by asking for a copy of the bill? At least two or three days could have been given until both the Minister of the Interior and Minister of Finance should have had an opportunity to meet their colleagues in council, and by word of mouth and interchange of ideas, to see if any amicable and united conclusion could not be had. Now we would be very loath to lose the Minister of Finance. His presence in the House is a countenance is always an inspiration to us when it is not the opposite—(laughter)—and it is not often that it is the opposite. But we would like to see him at rest as well as the Prime Minister would do it, as to whether there is any truth in the rumor which is persistent, that the Minister of Finance, not having been consulted, is not altogether at one with the rest of the Cabinet in relation to this bill. We must bid adieu to the Minister of the Interior with varying feelings—(laughter). We do it, some with sympathy; some will say he fought the fight and finished the course. I am not going to say how good a course it was, and he entered into his reward. Probably he had his reward before; possibly, like the late Minister of Railways and Canals, there is some glorious future awaiting him in some of the large official trusts of the country. Anyway, if he leaves us as Minister of the Interior, he has not stated that he is going to leave us as member, and we will still have him with us to remonstrate with us and to counsel, and as far as we can, to have good will and perfect friendship towards us."

W. F. Maclean asked the Prime Minister who lives in the ramshackle house now? This autocratic Prime Minister, he said, has been at Three Rivers. He made the treaty at Three Rivers, and in pursuance of that treaty, he has chosen in his autocratic way to bring down a bill dealing with the great questions that are at issue, without consulting his colleagues. It is said that in the preparation of this bill he consulted only three of his Ministers, of whom two came from his own Province, of Quebec.

He pointed out that over this bill Sir Wilfrid had lost not only Mr. Sifton, but his panegyrist of 'The Toronto News,' 'The Toronto Globe,' 'The Montreal Witness,' and it looked as if he might repudiate the organ which claimed the other day to be his organ, 'Le Soleil.' The way little Manitoba was treated was then touched upon by the speaker, and he passed on to say that Mr. Sifton, by his resignation, had justified his mission into Ontario some years ago, asking Ontario's sympathy and aid to prevent his own Province of Manitoba from having educational shackles put upon it. He claimed that Sir Wilfrid stands to-day discredited in both House and country.

Separate Church and State.

Mr. Maclean concluded: "What the people of Canada desire in the separation of state and church. With regard to what is embodied in the constitution, so far as Ontario and Quebec are concerned, we say all right, we accept the situation."

A Voice: "Thank you."

"Nay, more, I go further and say I for one would not lift my hand to interfere with the people of these western Provinces to prevent them having Separate Schools if they desire them; but my plea is that the question must be left to them, that we must not impose these schools upon them. I am ready to declare here or anywhere else—I shall say as a Radical or a Democrat—for the principle of the entire separation of church and state, so far as our constitution will permit."

Lightning McCarthy Opposed.

Lightning McCarthy, North Simcoe, "I simply rise to announce to this House, as I have previously announced

to individual members of this House, that I am, like the late Minister of the Interior, absolutely opposed to the clauses submitted in this bill, that I will oppose it and oppose it unalterably."

His Position Known.

Dr. Sproule said he thought his position on this bill is pretty well known, but he rose to ask if the Prime Minister could not supplement the information given of Mr. Sifton's resignation by saying who the new incumbent of the Cabinet office made vacant would be. Also, if he did not think it would be well to tell the House that he was prepared to drop that clause of the bill? He congratulated the member for Brandon, and would like to know if it would not be possible to have more copies of the bill printed. He had been asked for a hundred, he could supply only five.

After speeches from Col. Hughes, George Taylor, Hugh Guthrie (who declared himself in favor of the bill), and Hon. John Haggart.

Sir Wilfrid Hedges.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who was received with loud cheers, then made the following reply:

"I have no observation of any kind to offer to the House on this occasion, because the occasion does not call for any observations beyond the statement that has been made by myself and by my late colleague, the present member for Brandon. The Hon. member for South York knows better than anybody that on such an occasion Ministerial explanations are to be given when a gentleman withdraws from the administration, and it is left for the Prime Minister and for this Minister, withdrawing to make such explanations as they deem fit. I rise simply to answer one question, though it is not at all pertinent to the issue, because every-thing that has been said here on the occasion beyond that which refers to the withdrawal from the Cabinet, is aside altogether from the issue. But the Hon. gentleman has questioned me with regard to a pamphlet which has been issued purporting to be certain collations from the debates of this House on a former occasion on the question of Separate Schools. I was not present upon this occasion, and this pamphlet had been distributed, and I shall make enquiry and ascertain who is responsible for it. Beyond that I have no information and no answers to make, I do not mean any discourtesy to the House, on the contrary, the House is entitled to the amplest information, and that it shall have at all times, and I hope before this matter is settled. But many of the matters which have been introduced to-day are absolutely foreign to the question which I was forced to bring before the House, that is to say, the resignation of my Hon. friend from Brandon. The other questions will come up at a later date."

Sir Wilfrid, in closing, referred to the insinuation made in the course of the debate, that in bringing forward this measure, there was an intention on his part in some way to assist the Minister of the Interior. He simply noticed the statement to give it the most emphatic denial he could.

The motion to adjourn was negatived, and the matter then dropped.

Opinions of the West.

Winnipeg, March 2.—The resignation of Mr. Sifton has created a profound impression in the west, but it is generally regarded as serving to clear the air. All sections and shades of opinion unite in giving credit to the late Minister of the Interior for honesty and courage, but the precise effect of his resignation is difficult to judge at present.

The Anglican Church, usually reluctant to mix in political strife, placed itself definitely on record yesterday afternoon, when the House of Bishops for Rupert's Land passed resolutions protesting against the perpetuation of Separate Schools.

All non-Catholic religious bodies are, therefore, now solid in the west in opposition to the education clauses of the autonomy bills.

SPRING ASSIEZS

The spring assizes open here on Monday, March 6th. The following jury cases have been entered for trial:

Drader vs. Laing, Ward Stanworth for plaintiff, Dickson & Co. contra. Burbridge vs. Elliott, Elliott & Co. for plaintiff, W. Mills contra. Patterson vs. the London Mutual Fire Insurance Co., Lewis & Co. for plaintiff, McKay & Co. contra.

The case of Labombard vs. the Gas Co. and the city is the only suit entered for non jury trial.

A hungry dog would gladly trade his pedigree for a square meal.

CRACKERY

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Great News for the LADIES.

I have just returned from New York where I have been purchasing goods for next Christmas, but incidentally I bought several cases of Japanese China, which arrived to late for last Xmas trade and was sold to me at a Bargain. These goods consist of cups and saucers, plates, berries, olives, bon bons, vases, salts and peppers, marmalades, casseroles, etc., all new and beautiful designs, never shown in Canada before. These will be placed on sale

Sat., Mar. 4th

as it will take until then to prepare for the sale. Our whole store will be given up to this lot of china, and as our busy season is starting it must be sold out in one week. Come and see the goods anyway, whether you want them or not. The prices will run from 4c each up. We cannot spare space nor time to put these in our window, so call and see them and bring your friends.

SULMAN'S Beehive
KING and SIXTH STS.

COME

To our Special Sale. Our goods will stand the test for quality. Our prices—well, here are some of them—4 lbs. of Laundry Starch, 25c. 3 Cans Blueberries, 25c. Red Cross Pickles, 9c. per bottle. Corn Starch, 7c. per package. Clothes Pins, 1c. per doz. 1-lb. Cane Sunlight Baking Powder, 10c. Coffee, fresh ground, 15c. per lb. Seeded Raisins, 1-lb. packages, 10c. 2 Cans Red Salmon, 25c. Lemon Biscuits, 9c. per lb. New Dates, 7c. per lb.

CRACKERY

We are still clearing out our Dinner, Tea and Chamber Sets. If you want bargains this is the place to get them. Also China Lamps and Glassware, at prices that make sales.

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WHO SELLS

THE BEST

\$3 SHOE?

How in the world do we know.

Every Shoeman says he does.

All We know is—Our Three Dollar Shoes are by

far and away the best We've ever sold.

TURRILL, THE SHOE MAN