

EVENTS

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THE members of the House of Commons were more deeply interested on Tuesday evening in the returns from the two by-elections in Ontario than in the proceedings of the House. The leader of the Opposition was out in the township of Carp indulging in a lawn social with Presbyterian friends, and in order to make quite certain that he was at home, Col. Sam Hughes went along.

Mr. Borden's attempt to associate with the Orangemen of Ontario turned out to be rather unlucky. The two bye elections were fought on the sole question of separate schools for the new provinces in the Northwest as granted by the Autonomy Bill. It came to be a question in this country whether the Protestants, who form the minority in the Province of Quebec, should alone be entitled to the

benefits of a complete system of separate schools. The Roman Catholics thought that there should be a law providing for separate schools in the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan, and many Protestants thought that so long as they were prepared to pay for separate schools they ought to have them provided they were efficient. The law as incorporated in the Autonomy Bill makes complete provision for the efficiency of the separate schools, exactly in line with the public schools. That being the case it was pleasing to learn that the propaganda, emanating largely from the newspaper press of Toronto designed to make a cleavage over this question had no effect on the minds of the bulk of the electors. If it had any effect if the attempt to stampede the Presbyterian vote in Ontario had succeeded then