

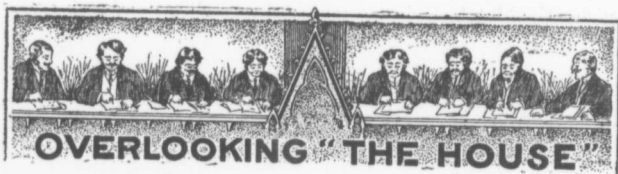
EVENTS

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THE debate on the motion for the second reading of the Bill creating two new Provinces in the Northwest, which has been in progress for four weeks, is still going on. In the opinion of everybody in attendance on Parliament the debate became monotonous two weeks ago, except, perhaps, to some of those who took part in it. For example, one of the new members was so enamored of the sound of his own voice that he had the temerity to keep the House sitting for over two hours. What he said Heaven and Hansard alone know, for no one listened to him, and even his own side faded away under the downpour like Spring snow before a warm rain. The other side is just as bad, and if the thing isn't brought to an end soon some tired member of the Press Gallery will go in and carry off the Mace, without which Mr. Speaker would have no authority to preserve order. Indeed it must be the Mace that intervenes between the Mono-

tony Bill and all those who make two hour speeches. At Washington a member of Congress can only speak for ten minutes, but Canada being a larger country requires more time. Once upon a time a member of the Canadian Commons made a motion to limit a speech to two hours! That would now be considered a joke. If the British House of Commons devoted four weeks to one bill it would need a search warrant to find the members for the division. That reminds us. There is to be, somewhere in the unformed future, a division on this Autonomy Bill. The precise date depends. It depends on the quantity of hot air yet to be projected into the Chamber. A new member has been returned by acclamation and has just taken his seat. He belongs to a talking profession and may have come down to Ottawa with the central idea that the whole Dominion is teeming with the one Toronto idea. If so then he will have to be reckoned with by the patient Whips.