longest and Stormiest Session of House.

ods!

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Exposures of Government Wrong Doing--Sensational Administration Scandals--A Review of 1921 Proceedings.

FORE WORD. although, perhaps, unintentionally, by the remaining members of the Execufollowing review the author tive. These will go down in history as mpted to the best of his ability the greatest accumulation of incomive in as few words as possible an of the proceedings in the petents that were ever entrusted with the Government of a country. The Assembly during its most Prime Minister was certainly a clever man. He was indisputably an excellent dinary 1921 session. It is apeveryone that no matter how debater, he had a ready wit and could man may be interested in polibe most energetic when it suited him. But, he was so avaricious for power, annot always find the time o devote to the reading of even if only nominal, that he was pre-pared to abide by all the dictates of use reports. It is for such hey are legion, that this re-Mr. Coaker. The Prime Minister was further, handicapped by the number of een written. By reading btain a thorough grasp of al offices which he was endeavouring to administer singlehanded. Besides his ok place during the session just ned without having much of duties as Leader of the Government occupied, and they can rest he had also the portfolio of Colonia at in it there is no exaggera Secretary. Moreover, he acted as tem ical purposes. Care has porary Minister of Finance and Custo see that every detail is toms owing to the illness of Hon. Mr nothing has been written Brownrigg. These were too many bur-dens on the shoulders of one man. been fully substantiated. louse of Assembly was in Next of importance in the Executive was Hon. Mr. Warren, who whilst posyear, the country was ugh a most critical persibly not condoning all the actions of re is not a voter who should party, nevertheless lacked the his self to remain ignorant of initiative and courage to make any rein which the colony was monstrances. Hon. Dr. Barnes, Hon. Mr. Foote and Hon. Dr. Campbell the ed during this period. ay last, August 12th the long-n of the Newfoundland Legisremaining members of the Squires fol-lowing in the Executive were negligto an end, inasmuch as it ible. These men were devoid of per-sonality, they had not sufficient courfor a period of four months. vas this the longest session age between them to make an effort to h by no means inappropri-rmed the most extraordinstop the mad cap schemes of Mr. Coak er, and they are therefore as much to there were many occurblame as he for the consequences which have ensued. But the most strikmost unusual nature during iod of four months in which the ing point about the whole administra vas open. It had been anticipattion was that not one of them had any before the House opened that ion would be a stormy one. business knowledge or capability. There were three lawyers and a doctor try was in a chaotic state and of literature, it is true, but, not one man except possibly Hon. Mr. Coaker, had any idea of business methods. Nor nment had ignored all agitaan early opening of the Legiswas common property that did one, with again the exception of ot well with our economic Mr. Coaker, who had anything to lose no one, not even the leading f the Government, realized if the country were ruined. As Sir Michael Cashin informed them in the bad things were. The Fish ons were the prime cause of House, they had nothing at stake but a few sets of law books! This then was his was not so much because the Executive Government which was administering the affairs of the counons were bad in themtry when the House opened during the that they were employed in present year. manner and at the wrong nly this, but when the regu-e found to be having a bad THE OPENING OF THE HOUSE. The opening of the Legislature was called for March 30th. The day itself

the market, they were still The whole trouble was by Hon. W. F. Coaker, Minwas an indication of what was likely to occur whilst the House was in sesarine and Fisheries, who sion for the weather was of the stormacy or some other reaiest, a blinding snow storm raging all the afternoon and night. When the ich only he alone can know, reove the Regulations until House met, the following members of the Opposition were present in their seats on the Speaker's right. Sir M. P. Cashin; Messrs. J. R. Bennett, W. J. Higgins, P. F. Moore, C. J. Fox, N. J. Vinicombe, W. J. Walsh, J. R. Mac-MR. COAKER DICTATOR.

as only under pressure applied position that Mr. Coaker was appelled to remove from the ok the Rules and Regulamore than anything else, o the unfortunate condiwe. at present, find ourhe time the House opened, Coaker or soi-disant Fishernment, had been in poween months, during which

THE STRONGEST OPPOSITION. had contrived to make listakes than any previous ad-It is an indisputable fact that the party n since Responsible Govwhich occupied the Opposition Benchm the very first the Gov-dominated by Hon. W. F. es on March 30th

AUGUST

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THE EVENING TELEGRAM, ST. JOHN'S. NEWFOUNDLAND, AUGUST 15, 1921-5



was the strongest that has ever sat on magining himself a secthat side of the House. In it were in-, attempted to take too cluded some of the most competent and upon his own shoulders. experienced business and professional consequent upon an men the country has ever produced s kind, Mr. Coaker was unand moreover, the majority of them had had previous legislative eexperireat organizer, and it is er any one man in this ence. Whilst it is impossible within exercised the same the compass of this article, to give dethe fishermen as did tailed higraphies of the Opposition although his prestige members, a few short notes concernconsiderably through the ing them may not be out of place. Sir Michael Cashin, the Leader of ows it received in the House. ossesses a great amount the Opposition Party, is the "father of the House," having represented the district of Ferryland for over thirty over the people of the the twenty three seats held nment, eleven were under years, whilst for many years he had ol of Mr. Coaker, who took occupied the responsible post of Mintage of the authority and inister of Finance and Customs. Subse the he thus commanded. The Prime quent to the fall of the Lloyd adminiswas overwhelmed by the tration. Sor Michael had taken over the ersonality and tremendous Premiership and filled that office until man and lent an all too defeated at the polls in the general election of 1919. Sir Michael is a born ear to everything he did. leader. He possesses a strength of character found in few, and above all of his eleven seats Coaker ngs as he pleased and took adnone. He who had once been else he is a man who carries with him it opponent of all forms of the courage of his convictions. Blunt, ause its mouthpiece and occasionally to the point of abrupt-ness, he is to-day the outstanding The Prime Minister and the lister of Justice went last summer a trip to England and stayed abroad figure in local politics.

weeks later.

Donnell E. Sinnott, Cant. John Lewis

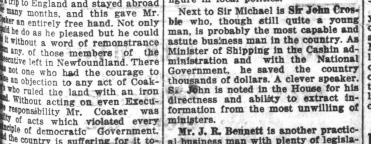
and Dr. W. E, Jones. The two last nam-

ed had been returned at the Harbour

Main bye-election that very spring. Sir John C. Crosbie and Mr. M. S, Sullivan

were abroad at the time and took their

seats on arrival at the House a few



Mr. J. R. Bennett is another practic-al business man with plenty of legisla-tive experience whilst Mr. W. J. Hig-gins is noted as the best defence lawcountry is suffering for it to-It is the victim of one man rule must every other country sufyer in the country. The several years he served as Speaker of the House have often stood him in good stand. Mr. M. S. Sullivan is fully conversantten bent to an individual's will. NCOMPETENT ADMINISTRA-TION.

with the pulp and paper industry and with forestry. Capt. Lewis has a com-plete knowledge of the fisheries whilst Dr. Jones is a medical man of many t, whilst Mr. Coaker was undenithe main cause of the unfortunposition in which we found our-



The following Grand Lodge Off-

the Maritime Provinces of Canada and Newfoundland at Halifax, on Thurs-

Siloam Lodge, No. 29, St. John, N.B. Grand Conductor-George Grimes, Cabot Lodge, No. 118, Bonavista,

Grand Guardian-Thomas W. Baker,

Minard's Liniment for Burns, Etc.