

ment, with a view to satisfy the members of the party :—

A session of the present Parliament will be called together to meet not later than the first Thursday of January next. If by that time the Manitoba government fails to make a satisfactory arrangement to remedy the grievance of the minority, the Dominion Government will be prepared, at the next session of Parliament, to be called as above stated, to introduce and press to a conclusion such legislation as will afford an adequate measure of relief to the said minority, based upon the lines of the judgment of the Privy Council, and the remedial order of the 21st March, 1895.

These were the assurances given by the Finance Minister on the 8th July, 1895, at the time when his friends and supporters from the province of Quebec were dissatisfied, when he could only bring back two of the bolting Ministers, and when a great many of the bolting supporters were still wavering. He stated that legislation would be on the lines of the remedial order and of the judgment of the Privy Council. That statement did not satisfy some of the hon. gentleman's friends, and he was obliged, on 15th July, to make another statement, in order to make his position clear, and that statement is as follows :—

I am here to state, and to state it on behalf of the Government, that so far as a policy can be decided on unanimously and unitedly, this policy is : That so far as it can be enunciated clearly, and so far as this Government is concerned, it intends to adhere to that policy, word for word, line for line, and letter for letter.

The first statement he made did not seem to satisfy his friends, and so he made another statement of a more certain character, and stated that the remedial order would be carried out line by line, word for word, and letter for letter. The Bill introduced does not contain the provisions of the remedial order word for word, letter for letter, line for line, not even paragraph for paragraph, because it omits clause (b), which, I have pointed out, is one of the most important. What was the statement made by the Finance Minister last Friday? The hon. gentleman made a most eloquent and able speech, as he always does in this House. He spoke about almost everything else at length, but he said very little about the Bill. After spending two hours in discussing bills of rights and other subjects, he screwed up courage to come to the Bill under consideration, and state its nature. He said :—

The principle of remedial legislation is in that Bill as the gold is in the nugget.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Very refractory gold.

Mr. FOSTER. It may be so, Sir. But the man who wants to get pure gold does not simply kick aside the nugget with his rough encasement, but he says : Let me have that and, with the help of others, I can refine it into pure gold.

Compare that statement with the statement

made by him on 15th July, which said it is not the nugget you are going to get, it is the pure gold you are going to get, word for word, line for line, and letter for letter. But, Sir, on this occasion, it is the nugget he is giving us, and he tells us that there is gold in the principle of the Bill, and that we can put it through the process of refining. That means, that when the Bill goes to the committee of this House, the committee, according to his way of putting it, is a parliamentary refining mill, the motive power of which is the Dominion Government. Well, Sir, the engine of this motive power got very badly out of order last July, when three bolters from the province of Quebec went out, because they had not only no gold, but they had not even the nugget. The whole engine got out of repair then, and when they had not even nuggets to offer their friends from the province of Quebec, all they could do was to enter into a contract by which the machine was to be put into repair, and be ready for operation on the 2nd of January so as to begin the process of refining. Sir, the 2nd of January came, and the mill was there, and the mill hands were there, but what happened? Where was the nugget, and where was the gold? Instead of these fourteen Cabinet Ministers going to work as they agreed to, why, seven of them bolted, and left the foreman, because, as they said, he was not able to run the machine. Although they had promised to begin work on the 2nd of January, the process of refining had to be delayed, and two months elapsed before they could get the machine into repair, and on the 3rd of March they moved the 2nd reading of this Bill.

Mr. McDUGALL (Cape Breton). And yet you cannot get in.

Mr. McISAAC. And yet you cannot get in, says the hon. member. I have heard that statement during four elections at which I got in by a large majority, and I will get in again by a large majority. Sir, the only consolation the Minister of Finance gives us is that when the Bill goes into committee, the gold will there be separated from the nugget. That might be all right if all the members of the committee were anxious to improve it, but I am sorry to say that such is not the complexion of the committee of this House. They will be divided upon this, as upon all other questions. Some members will pull in one direction and some in another, but so far as I am concerned, I will give my hearty support to any motion which is calculated to improve this Bill, and to get out of it all that we can. Sir, we listened the other evening to a speech from the hon. member for Leeds (Mr. Taylor) who is the Government whip in this House. When I heard his declarations on this Bill, and when I heard the Minister of Finance (Mr. Foster) say that the Bill would be trusted to a