CASE OF PROVINCE FOR "BETTER TERMS"

(Conitnued from page 1.)

be expected to give all the benefits of our civil government to those other ent settled portion is at present enmay be so fortunate as to secure from Ottawa some substantial acknowledgment of this very critical condition of affairs in British Columbia, it must be to surmount a good many obstacles indeed before she can give all of these still better privileges to the whole province, that she is in duty bound to do.

Ottawa, there appeared to be some feeling of encouragement that the province might expect action on the part of Ottawa. I find that the delegation was well received, that the different data submitted was most carefully considered, and the impression of the delegates when they left the capital of Canada was that their case had been entertained, and that they might expect some consideration. Well, sir, time goes on, and nothing is done.

The second delegation proceeds to covers pretty well the same ground, and makes out the same case, is given a very hearty reception and leaves for British Columbia with the expectation that something tangible will come from their efforts, eventually, though nothing is done.

The Last Endeavor.

Two years ago, my colleague, the Minister of Finance, Captain Tatlow, and I made a trip to Ottawa, and by arrangement with Sir Wilfrid Laurier took up the question of the British Columbia's position. During that conference something was said which lead to the belief on my part at any rate that nothing might be expected in so far as a conference to amend the resolution ori-

tion of extra, or special treatment to this province; that there was no sug- Ontario, if you will glance over Mr. gestion on our part of asking Ottawa Whitney's memorandum, you will find that while she was considering the that the case as made out by him in case for British Columbia, the position no way, shape or form, is framed along of the other provinces should be con- the lines of that of British Columbia.

dies to the provinces. And of course it would naturally follow that the busifined to the discussion of those subsieidentally during the different sessions that we held, other matters were members of the conference, as well as by the federal authorities, of more or large, and in the end steps were taken you have been already notified.

For instance, the question of the cancellation or at least the question of the repeal of the law imposing a tax on ommercial travellers seemed to be considered by the gentlemen present at Ottawa, as something of an urgent nature, and it was there decided that the different provinces where such laws were to be found in force were to lose

ily some of my brother prime ministers fell in line with suggestions that would have easily brought the work of that conference to an end within a few days of its meeting. However, there was no Hansard taken of that meeting, or of the debates, and the different discussions that might lead up to the statement which I have just given were never taken down, or reported. But I am quite satisfied in my own mi that had they been so treated no one

several of the eastern prime ministers, of subsidies, of any province be refer-the work of the conference could easily red to arbitration."

friends to understand that above and beyond the provision sought to be extended to the different provinces by the Quebec resolution, we in British Col-

umbia, be now pressed upon the government of the Dominion for immediate and favorable action, under reserve of the right of any province to now submit to such government memoranda in writing rning any claims which may have to larger sums than those set out in the said résolutions, or additional consideration or recognition."

Resolution Amended.

that being the case, Mr. Speaker, when- to the entreaties of the province of Briof a debate or a discussion, or a division in our conference, Sir Wilfrid and his colleagues withdrew, and left us to deliberate among themselves.

to come to Ottawa intimated that we wrote a letter to Mr. Gouin, the chairman, and that letter is incorporated in cussing these provincial subsidies, and my report, and briefly, Mr. Speaker, it one would naturally conclude at once, in connection with this discussion, we would at all times have the benefit of, the presence of the federal as well as of the local ministers, and it was only when we were unanimous and proposed acting together that they would come and discuss matters. That was a seri- ed on some of them that had already ous discouragement.

have been concluded in two days. Well, I found at once, sir, that British Colthis motion, there was a very animated umbia as a province could never accept such a proposition for a moment, of British Columbia. And I had albecause if you consult this resolution ready been so fortunate as to secure you will find that they make a general from nearly every member of the conyou will find that they make a general provision for Canada with no special reservation for British Columbia.

Now, we had already, through the Hon. Col. Prior and yourself, Mr. Speaker, previously given our eastern special control of the find that they make a general provision for Canada with no special reservation of particular that the Liberat reservation for British Columbia.

I only mention this question of the case, so as to legal aspect of the case, so as to clear the ground and let us come to a clear understanding, Mr. Speaker, or all this columbia.

I only mention this question of the legal aspect of the case, so as to clear the ground and let us come to a clear understanding, Mr. Speaker, or all this columbia.

I only mention the comment on this question of the legal aspect of the case, so as to clear the ground and let us come to a clear understanding, Mr. Speaker, or all this columbia.

Action Necessary.

Action Necessary.

Action Necessary.

Action Necessary.

Action Necessary. beard of arbitration or a commission of

Quebec resolution, we in British Columbia expected to receive from Ottawa
still better treatment—still more generous treatment.

I take it, therefore, that there is no
mitted by five deven overlook the misthat we should even overlook the misthat we sho she is in duty bound to do.

Some Encouragement.

Some Encouragement.

Well, Mr. Speaker, seven years ago, or pretty nearly seven years ago, when the Dunsmuir delegation returned from the side of the House with seemed to take a that time that ir gard it as a mistake that either one being taken at that time that ir gard it as a mistake that either one of this side of the House with seemed to take a stand by the government of this side of the House with the day as representing the when I sall time—the ground to take a stand by the government of the day as representing the strong protest against any such course being pursued. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in strong protest against any such course being pursued. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in strong protest against any such course being pursued. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in strong protest against any such course being pursued. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in strong protest against any such course being pursued. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in strong protest against any such course being pursued. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in strong protest against any such course being pursued. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in strong protest against any such course being pursued. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in strong protest against any such course being pursued. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in strong protest against any such course being pursued. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in strong protest against any such course being pursued. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in strong protest against any such course being pursued. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in strong protest against any such course being pursued. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in strong protest against any such course being pursued. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in strong protest against any such course being pursued. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in strong protest against any

that nothing should be omitted in emphasizing this, and I had the protest ation of the Imperial authorities cer-

motion which I have read to you, and on which quite a prolonged debate again arose. On the following day, after certain attempts had been made by other members of the conference to

only too pleased to come in and state vince, and considering the further fact ther position with regard to it. And that the convention had closed its ears ever these questions assumed the form tish Columbia, I was in duty bound to

Of course, that was more or less a disappointment because the invitation withdrawing from the convention I Now I would like to point out that in

tish Columbia, to make this a political issue, and the records that may be pro-

could have hesitated to come to the a motion was carried to the effect that place in that conference and threaten mission and to his conduct at Ottawa, legal obligation. It has never been the position that he ought to have apsecede from confederation. Not for one moment did I do anything of the kind, but I insisted as far as I could upon the rights of the province being recognized at Ottawa, and I said that at all times this country felt quite safe if she followed up the rights that she had as-

And now, since the federal authorities propose asking the Imperial govern-I found that all of my fellow mem- | ment to provide certain amendments

ment—that the people of British Col-umbia have since refused, and which

Premier Initiate treatment I ask this legislature to re

edgement that British Columbia had a vinces and with the concurrence of my cause that merited for her better treatbeen entertained was given place on the official records, and it was a source find that Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his colleagues and the others of the prime ministers there assembled were a unit

on his return from Ottawa, the assumed during the assumed to return and if you peruse it you will note that their goods are manufactured in their own province, and that their goods are manufactured in their own province, and that their goods are manufactured in their own province, and that they are, therefore, not paying the dury on imported goods; that we, on the people of this province on this question of better terms—appealed to other hand, are not a manufacturing province, up to the present time at all endeaves assumed by my honorable friend on his return from Ottawa, the attitude which has assumed by my honorable friend on his return from Ottawa, the attitude which has assumed by my honorable friend on his return from Ottawa, the attitude which has assumed by my honorable friend on his return from Ottawa, the attitude which has assumed by my honorable friend on his return from Ottawa, the attitude which has time, and if was there decided that the different provinces where such laws were to be found in force were to lose the interporting them.

Morpholized Time.

Morphol

conclusion that with the adoption of the conference, it "is the gentlemen there assembled that which he considered objectionable. Now the Quebec resolution, as suggested by several of the eastern prime ministers, of subsidies, of any province be reference. It is the gentlemen there assembled that which he considered objectionable. Now maintained that we have a tenable in indivisable that the claim, in the way of subsidies, of any province be reference, it is the gentlemen there assembled that unless British Columbia were given of subsidies, of any province be reference, it is the gentlemen there assembled that unless British Columbia were given of subsidies, of any province be reference, it is the gentlemen there assembled that the claim, in the way of subsidies, of any province be reference, it is the gentlemen there assembled that which he considered objectionable. Now if I remember aright, Mr. Speaker, belief that the claim against the Dominion for this special treatment, that he was not quite right in submitting it to the conference, better terms. proper and decent treatment she would fore any references were made to his better terms. secede from confederation. Not for one conduct there by the Liberal press, his If we have such an able claim, Mr. seems highly inconsistent

The very nature of our demands, Mr. ada. Speaker, makes it absolutely essential at Ottawa, you will find there is a tenter of the provinces that might have some extra favor that the other provinces that most bought to the provinces that the other prov province and the federal authorities, and any alterations in that contract-should come from the original contracting parties, and for that reason I felt that nothing should be omitted in embers of the proposes to submit to the considerations in that contracting parties, and for that reason I felt that nothing should be omitted in embers of the proposes to submit to the considerations were accepted by my honorable friend and accepted by my honorable friend and science and the federal authorities, accepted by my honorable friend and stitute of the unanimous assent of every province in the proposes to submit to the considerations were accepted by my honorable friend and stitute of the unanimous assent of every province in the proposes deither upon the conference or upon the Dominion government, I believe we have an unanswerable constitution of the proposes to submit to the considerations. of the House I do not know where it tutional claim against the Dominion, government, and always dealt with by ecorded on the minutes of the confernce.

Then Mr. Whitney made his former

tain amendments to the British North
America Act, certain provisions or conditions, the terms of treatment toward

friend was at the conference and after

tutional claim against the Dominion, government, and always dealt with by
and a claim, too, Mr. Speaker, which
is not based upon criticisms of our
there seems to have been a charge:
there seems to have been a charge: British Columbia as outlined in Mr. the close of that conference and during Whitney's resolution, and it will be the recent campaign which took place the close of that conference, and during public men of 1871. shown that the province of British Col- in this province is concerned, I think umbia refused at Ottawa this treat- Liberals can claim that we did not

Premier Initiated It.

the belief on my part at any rate that nothing might be expected in so far as british Columbia was concerned, to come from these different delegations, or from these different representations to Ottawa, until a general conference of provincial prime ministers might be ease for British Columbia and any their case for British Columbia and the province of British Columbia and to the the province of British Columbia and the province of British Columbia and to the the province of British Columbia and to the

tenant-Governor.

Now, sir, it must have struck honorable gentlemen opposite, that for the first time in the history of this agitation there had been an official acknowlof British Columbia was this sum of cent., and remain so up to the present ence held in 1902 made use of these

"That in view of the large area, geographical position, and very exceptional physical position, and very exceptional physical features of the province of British Columbia, it is the opinion of this conference that the said province should receive a reasonable additional allowance for the purposes of civil government, in excess of the provisions made in the Quebec resolutions of 1902, and that such additional allowance should be to the extent of 3100,000 annually for a period of ten extent of 3100,000 annually for a period of ten extent of 3100,000 annually for a period of ten years."

J. A. Macdonald was greeted with doud opposition appleause on rising to meant that was done any thing that will make this a political issue, and the records that may be produced will bear me out in my state ment. I say I have never done any thing that will make this a party or a partizan question, nor have I taken it out of provincial politics in a broad sense and made it an issue between the Liberals and the Conservatives of British Columbia. The columbia and the grounds upon which a statement made in Vancouver during the election that British Columbia and against the Dominion of Canada. I made the statement that the fact of the conference, the wrote on the 13th reiterating the loud opposition appleause on rising to a statement made in Vancouver during the election that British Columbia and against the Dominion of Canada. I made the statement that they have of Canada. I made the statement that they have of Canada. I made the statement that they have of Canada. I made the statement that they from the province of the reasonable and no legal calim against the Dominion of Canada. I made the statement that they have of Canada. I made the statement that they have of Canada. I made the statement that they have of Canada. I made the statement that they have of Cumbia and the grounds upon which as the claim which was the claim of Columbia and the grounds upon which the columbia and the grounds upon which as a partizan question, nor is ter

No Breach of Union Terms

I take it, therefore, that there is no on the table of the House only a few dispute between the gentlemen on the days ago, he has precluded himself

time, as set forth in the memorandum submitted by my honorable friend? It that the general readjustment and the treatment to be accorded to each But I think that it can hardly be claimed that the speech which my honorable friend made on his return in this province who could not foresee the province has been a matter which our public men in the Dominion and the province has been a matter which our public men in the Dominion and the province sthought proper to refer to a

case for Britian Columbia. The power present of the month of December last I removed the month of December last I removed

No Aid to Province.

Now, is that not a good constitutional ground? Is that not a dignified and edgement that British Columbia had a cause that merited for her better treatment—better terms. For the first time in the conference when this additional grant of \$115,000 a year was made to acknowledgment that her case had been entertained was given place on Prepared to Unite.

But as I said in prosecuting the claims of British Columbia for better terms at Ottawa, let us put aside all and the province of Quebec, which are columbia, which are considered to the conference, had it been pressed upon members of the conference, had it been shown that distribution. these matters-let us forget, and I am | manufacturing provinces, that they are

That attitude taken in his speech are making upon the Dominion of Can- that position to-day. Because we find that by his own words in his own report to the Lieutenant-Govern

His Course of Action.

there seems to have been a change; there seems to have been a change in What Claim Is.

the manner in which these questions were to be dealt with, and from

motion respecting exceptional treatment to British Columbia: The very exceptional conditions of settlement existing in the provinces of Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan, each of the said provinces should be granted, for a period of ten years, an allowance of \$50,000 per annum in excepts of the subsidies provided by the course of the subsidies provided by the course of the subsidies provided by the course of the subsidies provided by the conservations and told the people of what ment to British Columbia; reports had been sent down by some of the reporters at Ottawa, which filled columns and colums and colums and columns are truthed by the comment.

It as that the comment to the provinces of that was the unfortunate feature of that spech, and I believe that same attitude—which was on the

words. He said:

"I fully realize that without the co-operation and good will of the other provinces it would be difficult to impress upon the Dominion authorities the justice of what

Now, he was referring there to special conditions, not to the general re-

we seek."

To show that the position was disinctly taken by the Premier of British Columbia, when you, sir, were Attor-

When we met Monday, October 8th, there appeared to me to be a considerable anxiety on the part of some of my brother prime ministers to have the Quebec resolution adopted, and almost "railroaded" through, and then the work of our meeting would be called off. I can recall sir, how read-called to extra the most different steps which have been taken by the government of the province sidered."

And I say, notwithstanding that, and not the government of the province sidered."

And I say, notwithstanding that, and not the government of the province sidered."

And I say, notwithstanding that, and not with like to say a few word of argument along that line in the special case which my honorable friend submitted to this House two of the question and discuss this question of the legis—that in view of the large area, geographical position, and very ex-

notice of the find were bound to take ings of that con when he submitted did submit, the case we have no criticis Should Be C

And I must conf

for myself only, I proper that readjuctal subsidies shou by provincial conf All the provinces the provinces are n ily which constitu ion, they are part nation of ours; and able and natural th consulted in matter that seems to have ! mind of our public Now, I am not q honorable friend wa Does he want us to right in submitting tish Columbia to t he wants us to affirm are prepared to do which he assumed joint session, when and some of the o were present, he the claims of Bri special treatment sl arbitration. And i makes the statem -this is the statem esolution the said H Bride submitted suc the Dominion gover the claims of Brit

special recognition Now the proceed he submitted these the conference. Tha Mr. Speaker, on page eport, which was ing from the officia Bride submitted the andum, embodying tish Columbia to sp

tive treatment.' So that before, I mated discussion friend speaks of, las days, took place, an Mr. Whitney, on bel of Ontario, did th hon, friend clearly anda to the confer conference to consid Then, two or three matter having been minion ministers ha Laurier makes the with regard to the minion governme of reference to arbi this House to anot rained in the pream friend will modify is called to it-he sa the said request mal was refuse Sir Wilfrid Laurier

A Contra Now, there is a that Sir Wilfrid Lau sider the request of for a reference to a letter is set out w This is what the says: "The British comes entirely wi rose of this confe rence, after he arguments in su reached the conclutation should take commission, for th

that would presen and, while I am no that such a reco conference would give it further cor And yet my hon this recital that hi tration was refus Laurier. I say tha sent to strike that Premier McBri

Now, what was t

honorable friend o

rbitration? I see

Colonist, the other umbia's terms to t

suggestion of Sir V the Premier of Bri disregard the expect that either, thought that by s of British Columb he was jeopardizin If he really con proper tribunal t Columbia's claim f the Dominion parl minion parliamen Sir Wilfrid Lauri else, and given up for his province. that stage to take the other; he was had two courses o and insist that so terms were cond government alone parliament alone these, or, he co the suggestion of other person, thought that ad ence, then I say tice to himself, manhood, and and dignity of Columbia, when no business to de at all. (Opposi

> He : And he took par