

AUTONOMY, PROVINCIAL, IN THE NORTH-WEST—*Con.*

*Paterson, Hon. Wm. (Minister of Customs)—Con.*

parliament has the power—3047. Borden says we have no power—3048. Judging from the arguments I have heard, and bringing to bear what common sense I have on the subject—3049—it seems to me we have power to deal with this matter—3050. The whole spirit of confederation, as I understand it in reference to the educational question—3051. Is that the local government may deal—shall deal—with the education question—3052. Lalor's answer is not a correct answer, and therefore I must ask again—3053. What better indication can you have of the desires of the people of the Northwest Territories than their own legislation?—3054. For thirty years this legislation has been enjoyed by these people. It was consolidated again—3055. Gentlemen who have these ordinances in their hands will come to the conclusion that these are national schools—3056. It must be borne in mind that those separate schools are formed precisely as every school district is formed—3057. No special right, no special permission is given the separate schools which is withheld from the other—3058. I am glad to find that it is proposed to continue such a law in the Northwest—3059. In these provisions I find that which not only I do not disapprove, but that which meets my cordial approval—3060. There is and has been an attempt in this House to weaken the influence and disparage the judgment of Sir Wilfrid Laurier—3061. Are we not entitled to credit in voting for this Bill, believing in our conscience that it is our duty to do so even in face of this threatened extinction?—3062. I think when they thoroughly understand this Bill, when the past is past, they will revise their opinions—3063. Sir Wilfrid Laurier has been the one man pre-eminent in cementing the nationality of the people of Canada—3064. Maclean infers that this vote had been carried by a united Quebec—5410.

*Perley, G. H. (Argenteuil)—3739.*

No one is absolutely certain whether or not this House has the power to pass this Bill in its present shape—3739. I would consequently urge them strongly to withdraw the Bill and postpone it until next session—3740. I am sure that none of my Protestant friends would object to our continuing in the Northwest the very moderate rights—3741. On that point no one can tell which lawyer is right and what view the Privy Council may take—3742.

*Porter, E. Guss (West Hastings)—4726.*

Willing to move the adjournment—4726. Does not want to go on—4727. Sir Wilfrid's career since 1896 has been one of insincerity, deceit and pandering to outside influences—4728. As a result of his duplicity he lost from his cabinet one of its ablest members—4729. Why is he playing this double game?—4730. The

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government's treatment of Lord Dundonald and Mgr. Sbarretti—4731. There is an outcry at the binding and shackling of these provinces—4732. If any part of the Dominion choose to inflict on itself separate schools, that is their business—4733. No obligation for parliament to legislate on this subject—4734. The right of appeal would never be taken to mean the right to appeal from this parliament to this parliament—4735. There is not a single phrase that would prohibit the establishment of separate schools—4736. Parliament starts out to legislate for the provinces—4737. By these measures the right of appeal has been taken away—4738. Conditions in the Manitoba case different from those of these two provinces—4739. The statute of 1875 offers no warrant for legislation such as this—4740. Considers the present clauses as wide as those of 1875—4741. The same conditions will be fixed on them unalterably—4742. Quotes Dr. Ryerson on separate schools—4743. Bad thing for the country to make itself taxgatherer for the church—4744. Will support Mr. Borden's amendment—4745.

*Pringle, R. A. (Cornwall and Stormont)—4273.*

Talbot has told us that in his opinion the educational system in the Northwest Territories to-day is the best in the Dominion of Canada—4273. The Canadian statesmen of that day had to compromise; concessions had to be made between the representatives of the different provinces—4274. I will deal immediately with what occurred when we started in to take possession of that great country—4275. Quotes Sir John Young's letter to Governor McTavish—4276. Quotes Governor McTavish's letter to Donald A. Smith—4277. It was evident that these delegates understood that the clause in the Manitoba Act protected them in their privileges—4278. This Bill of Rights No. 3 asks that the province shall be styled and known as the province of Assiniboia—4279. The English-speaking people were as anxious to preserve the right of the English Protestant minority as the Catholic minority now can be—4280. Our highest court decided that the Manitoba School Act of 1890 was ultra vires—4281. He knew what had taken place earlier, and he conceded to the minority their rights—4282. We next hear of this trouble coming up in our Dominion parliament in 1892, again in 1894—4283. It was considered not wise to change the conditions that existed in those Territories, and why?—4284. We would accord to the minorities in this country the right to have religious training in our schools—4285. Are the people of the Northwest Territories to be permitted to have any religious instructions in their schools?—4286. Quotes letter from the Anglican bishop, Dr. King, Principal Grant and Mr. Fitch—4287. It was not, I think, until 1892 that there was a complete change made in the school system—4288. All the authorities in the Northwest Territories are agreed that