

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

*Foster, Hon. Geo. E. (North Toronto)*—5732.

The inevitable difficulties have arisen—5732. Contrasts the opinions of Fitzpatrick and Fielding—5733. Let us ask these gentlemen to form a statement that both can sign—5734. Let us have dinner now—5735.

I wanted to get the land areas—5817. Wants Sifton present—5818. Since then other opinions have been expressed, and Fitzpatrick may perhaps have been a little shaken—5821. We will really have to give Fitzpatrick time to collect himself—5822.

The business would extend over both provinces—5929. Existing societies should be protected in their right to do business under present conditions in both provinces—5930. What becomes of it in the meanwhile?—5943. Have you not as much right to legislate to continue a company in the two provinces as you have in one province?—5944.

They would like to have the lands; they would like to have the whole outfit—6016. From the very moment they begin to be provinces they will commence an agitation—6017. You can hardly approach the question of lands without approaching the financial question—6018. The greater part of it is land which is valuable for what it will actually produce—6019. Within a certain number of years that would make away with a certain number of millions of dollars—6020.

There is enough in it in dollars and cents to make the Dominion government still do its duty—6026. What energy would be given to the great province of Alberta or Saskatchewan if it knew it had these millions of fertile acres—6027. Oliver may say that my remarks will have that effect, but certainly that was not what I had in mind—6028. You have both the proposition and actual thing carried out, and both are against Oliver—6029. Oliver must not carry that argument too far, because the instance I cited is directly against them—6030. Am I wrong in saying that those lands would rise to the value on an even basis of \$6 per acre?—6021. Sit in your seats to-day and say we will take care of that when the time comes; we will look for better terms—6022. You must either come to direct taxation of the people there, or come back to this Dominion—6023. Laurier has violated the spirit and the letter of each of the arrangements with the old provinces—6024. I dare say that there are gentlemen on each side of the House who will find weak spots in them—6025.

In discussing the land question last night I discussed the financial question, because the two seem to be intimately combined—6087.

Was the letter written by the advice of the Department of Justice?—6098. I should want to have it fixed that the capital from which the yearly payments arose should never be diminished—6100.

Is that Mr. Haultain's statement? It is a correspondent's statement—7122. Is it a clause of an Act?—7131. That is clause 16, No. 1; would that do?—7136. If the ma-

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majority refuse to erect a school district, government would have to intervene—7137. If it was a Polish majority, they might insist on teaching nothing but Polish—7138. I did not refer to the minority schools; I was arguing on the majority of ratepayers—7146. In Quebec are the Protestant schools, which are separate schools, denominational schools?—7162. Is the interpretation to be according to the conditions in 1875 or those of 1905?—7163. That shows that the law and common sense go side by side—7164. There is no law for them—7165. Where would be the rights of conscience to them?—7169. He withdraws that—7170.

The House would like to know the basis on which the schedules were arranged—7725. The way the government have applied these principles and their reasons for so applying them—7726. What population has been taken for each of these provinces and what was the unit?—7727. I may as well tell him that he will not get anywhere with this Bill until he makes the most ample and full explanation—7728. I have never attempted to bring a matter like this before parliament, and do it in three or four words—7729. Questions as to the constituencies—7730. The only reason why you would take the votes at all is as an indication as to the estimate of population—7732. Is this distribution founded on the number of voters polled or the number qualified?—7733. The ministers between them have given us two bases upon which they make the distribution—7735. You take the number of actual voters and you base your distribution on that—7736. How did the Interior Department get at that?—7737. On the face of it, it would seem as if they were optimistic as to their estimate of population—7738. I would like to know the basis on which the government came to that conclusion—7739. Homestead entries and settlements are two different things—7740. If you have the schools, let us have the school population—7741. You get something of value if you find the number of children attending the schools—7742. I am trying to get at what the government went on—7743-4. You may proceed—7748.

Is there to be no reply at all to the statements made last night?—7817. Asks an authoritative statement as to the white, half-breed and Indian population of Peace River—7818. Are the figures the population of to-day or the population of the census?—7819. After three months we may now get at one of the most elementary sources of information—7820. Either Laurier confuses the north with the south or I do—7827. Is trying to get at the basis on which the redistribution is made up—7830. Quotes Laurier—7831. The statements of Laurier and Oliver as far apart as the poles—7833. The distribution was made on this basis before any attempt was made to get information to buttress it up—7834. What reliance can be placed