

AUTONOMY, PROVINCIAL, IN THE NORTH-  
WEST—*Con.*Borden, R. L. (Carleton, Ont.)—*Con.*

B. N. A. Act, in which the constitution of this country is embodied—8278. Laurier not very sure for whom he himself is now speaking—8285. I think there is nothing in Laurier's present speech which he himself has not said before—8286. Why does not Laurier apply section 93 instead of mangling it by the special provisions of this clause?—8287. Because that is the construction that I believe it bears. That is the construction by which I am prepared to stand—8288. If Laurier believes that remedial legislation is of the value which it seems he would attach to it—8289. This constitutes a compact imposed for all time upon the people of the North-west Territories—8290. To apply to these new provinces, Alberta and Saskatchewan, the provisions of section 93 in their entirety—8291. Moves amendment—8292. The matter will be left absolutely to the people of the new provinces to deal with—8293. If we are going to alter the B. N. A. Act, we had better deal with this question and make it absolutely plain—8294. I did believe that they would accept loyally the result of applying section 93, whatever it might be—8295. If you intend to adhere exactly to the constitution—8297. May I ask Laurier what tribunal will determine what his amendment means?—8298. Certainly as to the Acts of 1867 and 1886, and that is the reason that we are moving a preamble which refers to them—8299. Why should not the people of the maritime provinces be in the same position?—8305. Parliament was not then establishing a province, it could have established a province—8306. How does Bourassa know what was intended except by referring to the statutes?—8307. Really, does Bourassa ask us to refer to the debates in order to interpret a statute?—8308. Do they take the ground that the refusal of parliament and the executive of 1893 amounted to a compact?—8327. Is that the same as the original section, or is there some change?—8341. What was it you said?—8343. I saw the article myself; I think it was in the *St. John 'Sun'*—8353. I thought it was so disgusting and discreditable that it could not have appeared in '*Le Canada*'—8354. Of the portion of the article which Lemieux purported to translate—8370. I would like to know whether or not that was not the position in 1893 and 1894—8371. My position is that we ought to apply section 93 of the B. N. A. Act, because it is part of the constitution—8389. In so far as it applies—8390. We have found it necessary to make amendments to a great many measures brought down by the administration—8420. Does Fitzpatrick deny that in clause 15 there were words that were absolutely meaningless?—8421. It is impossible for a document of that kind to be at once framed in a way which will be above criticism as to its verbiage—8422. I trust Fitzpatrick did not understand me as casting any aspersions upon the drafting of the Bill—8423. Fitzpatrick attached importance to

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the words contained in the first clause, 'may establish'—8450. If Fitzpatrick will take the opinion of the leader of the opposition as to all these matters, I think we may get along pretty amicably—8451. I do not ask Fitzpatrick to accept that. It may be a very rough and ready way of arriving at the result—8452. I have advocated leaving to the people of the North-west Territories the power to deal with this question—8453. I would think it much better, everything considered, to stand by the agreement and compact which we made in 1867—8454. I am very glad to have that assurance from Fitzpatrick—8455. In 1894 Brodeur thought the existing system a very poor system—8456. I never heard any such rule as that in committee; that is a rule for the House—8477. Is not this quite as relevant as the discussion of meetings held in Ontario and Quebec?—8479. This amendment was just brought to the attention of the committee only fifteen minutes ago—8494. Certainly we are not going to have it put through without any debate whatever—8495. I should have thought it better and manlier for the government to have made this motion—8499. Now, apparently this amendment has been considered by the government and handed to Lamont to move—8500. I am dealing with what I understood to be the intention of the government—8501. I am opposed to the whole section, amended or otherwise—8502. It says you are not to prejudice any right or privilege with respect to religious instruction—8503. As far as the Catholics are concerned, you desire to go further and provide the power to regulate instruction—8504. By declaring, as you do declare, that a power which is vested in the trustees—8505. And to prevent the province dealing with that—8507. That would be true of every clause, and you might as well petrify them all—8509. I want to say a word or two in reply to what Laurier has just said—8517. That which is satisfactory to-day may not be satisfactory in ten years—8518. Where is there anything about Protestants or Catholics in section 137?—8519. I do not observe any reference in this provision to Protestants or Roman Catholics, or any other denomination—8520. I would take almost any law from Fitzpatrick—8521. Moves an amendment to section 2—8526. Fitzpatrick will remember that Manitoba was constituted a province immediately—8527. Does Lemieux remember that Brodeur in the speech which he delivered—8557—bases the right of the minority in the N. W. Territories to separate schools on one very Bill of Rights?—8558. Why should you class with the people coming from foreign countries the French-Canadians?—8563. That is a different thing, but it is not the answer of Fisher—8564. Apart from that, the Act of 1877 is as much in force in the N. W. Territories to-day as it ever has been—8568. And the printing of the ordinances—8579. If Scott asks my opinion, I say it does