

lution. When the members were called in at midnight the House divided on straight party lines, except that the independent Liberals, Mr. Bourassa and Mr. Lavergne and one regular Liberal, Mr. Robitaille voted for Mr. Bourassa's motion. Two Conservative members, Mr. Foster and Mr. Fowler, refrained from voting, as their names were mentioned in the resolution. Every other Conservative in the House voted for Mr. Bourassa's motion, which was lost by 109 to 55.

The Ministers who were in the House at the time and voted against this motion for inquiry were Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Mr. Aylesworth, Sir Frederick Borden, Mr. Brodeur, Mr. Enmerson, Mr. Fielding, Mr. Fisher, Mr. Oliver, Mr. Paterson and Mr. Templeman.

It will be seen that this proposed inquiry was prevented by the votes of Ministers and their supporters, while it was demanded by Mr. Borden and the Opposition.

MR. BOURASSA'S SECOND ATTEMPT.

As the principal objection raised on the Government side was that the inquiry would be an inquisition and that no member would be responsible for the charges, Mr. Bourassa undertook to meet this excuse by another motion of which he gave notice on the day following the above vote. At the request of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, April 3 was fixed as the day for the discussion of Mr. Bourassa's second resolution, which did not ask for a general inquiry such as Sir Wilfrid had deprecated, but simply called upon Mr. Fowler to state clearly the charges which he had intimated in his "women, wine and graft" speech. Following is Mr. Bourassa's motion:

That on February 19th last, the member for Kings', N.S. (Mr. Fowler), stated: "I shall discuss the character of hon. members opposite, whether they be Ministers or private members, and their connection with women, wine and graft;"

That the hon. member stated further that he had 'data' and 'material' at his disposal with respect to his charges;

That such a statement, undefined as it is with regard to the parties concerned, reflects on the honor of the House and of the Government;

That the hon. member for King's be therefore invited, either to name the Ministers and members of the House to whom he was referring on February 19th, and to specify his charges against them, or to withdraw his accusation;

That unless the hon. member complies with that request and adopts one of those two courses, he stands censured by this House.

HEADED OFF BY POINT OF ORDER.

This was a motion to which the Government could not take exception on the ground that it was indefinite and proposed an inquisitorial appeal. If the Prime Minister was to head off this motion he must do it in a new way. That way was found. No doubt the Ministers, or some one on their behalf had discussed the matter with the Speaker. At all events Mr. Bourassa had hardly commenced to speak in support of his motion when the Speaker observed that the resolution would bring up the same subject