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Registration.

ore the day set apart for g of any term, students at themselves at the ffice for the purpose of for that term and or of the term fees. Each be given a registrawhich will admit him to ity classes. No student itted to the University hout such registration

FIRES TAKE ACE IN STRATHCONA.

el's Packing Plant Deyesterday Afternoon—The he Dominion Hotel Burn- This Morning.

Saturday's Bulletin.)

er four o'clock yesterday alarm was sent in to na fire hall for a blaze packing plant, to the far he city in the ravine and the E. Y. & P. railway the valley to Strathcona, emen arrived after a long the mud they found the ing out from the old situated about thirty feet in building. entire hose on hand had nt it was found to be yards too short to reach which was about four from the nearest hydrant. message was hurriedly e fire hall for more hose arrival was awaited the vored to keep the flames ne building by means of ater.

water was put on the oiler house and coal shed most completely destroyhad also spread to the arge packing house, but of the rain, which was heavily, and a bucket ed by H. A. Calder, was ontrol till the city water into use and effectively e last remnant of danger. which was a most picturs watched by big crowds e surrounding hills and but praise for the firerked strenuously to keep er control till reinforced.

originated from the boilnot known a what way is nncer was absent at the oss is about $1,000, coverance.

was sent in to the Edmonde for assistance and the taken across the river McSlaggen's corner. The urried ahead in his buggy found the fire had been ntrol the steamer did not . The haul up the hill nd heavy one through the

N HOTEL SUFFERS.

Saturday's Bulletin.)

o'clock this morning the again called out for a rear of the Dominion yte avenue. It was in before subdued. The the wooden part, a two en building, which was before subdued. The was occupied as a kitchdry and the second storey partments. The cause of ot known but is thought from a tramp who was part of the building. The insured.

BY-LAW CARRIED.

Thursday's Bulletin.)

to grant a franchise to a-Canadian Oil Company endorsed by the ratecathona yesterday, the 596 for and 36 against, oiled ballots. The comnow got franchises from d Strathcona, Morinville rt corporations, and are ly to commence work. ona agreement is very e one in Edmonton and chise for fifteen years. are now engaged in borMorinville, Egg Lake and he company state that in the laying of pipes in d Stratheona this fall, in a position to supply r.

Men should look for this Tag on Chewing Tobacco. It ees the high quality of

ck Watch

Big Black Plug.

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SEMI-WEEKLY

The Edmonton Bulletin.

SEMI-WEEKLY

VOLUME V. EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA, FRIDAY, MAY 15, 1908 NUMBER 147

REDISTRIBUTION IN SASKATCHEWAN

Premier Scott Calls Upon Haultain to Withdraw Statement That Bill is a Gerrymander.

Regina, May 14.—The Legislative Assembly Act Amendment Bill providing for increased representation in the house was today moved for a second reading by Premier Scott. No pronouncement was made as to the number by which the present representation should be increased. The premier suggested that the question of fixing new electoral divisions and deciding the number of seats of which the house should be composed be left to a select committee.

The premier stated it was generally admitted that the interests of the province required a larger representation in the house and the bill provided the method of procedure. He hoped that the leader of the opposition would withdraw his unwarranted statement made in the debate on the address when he described the redistribution bill of 1905 in which he (Mr. Scott) had some hand in making as an outrageous gerrymander. Mr. Scott produced a map showing the distribution which governed the present representation in proof of his contention that the very smallest change had been made in Mr. Haultain's own distribution of seats. If Mr. Haultain still held the 1905 bill was a gerrymander then he submitted the previous redistribution was equally a gerrymander.

Mr. Haultain contended that the 1902 redistribution ordinance was brought in under different conditions as to area and population and particularly under different political conditions to what existed when the redistribution bill was brought in three years later.

Conditions in 1902.

In 1902 there was practically no parties in the house except for a certain gentleman who occasionally offered opposition to the government of to-day. Mr. Scott mentioned that the honorary gentlemen made a very earnest plea after the act was passed, and Mr. Haultain said so far as a certain portion of his audience was concerned it fell on deaf ears. They all knew that early in 1905 political changes in the province were premeditated. Mr. Scott remarked that when the redistribution was mooted the last thing that entered his mind was that he should bear a part in the provincial policy which he had since been called upon to bear.

Mr. Haultain said it was decided there should be a change before the hon. gentleman was supposed in any sense to go into the field of provincial politics. Mr. Scott added there was a good deal of truth in that. The Moose Jaw convention was held in 1903. Mr. Haultain said there were no signs of party lines up to that time and went on to say that in 1905 the proportion of settlers in the southern portion of the provinces was very much greater than in the northern.

North and South Even.

Mr. Scott denied the accuracy of this statement and said the scales were kept even, the additional divisions being two and half in the north and two and half in the south. Mr. Haultain held the south should have got more than the north on the ground of population. The government on this occasion had merely brought in a blank bill. He thought they should have taken them more into their confidence. The select committee to whom the bill should be referred was then named and consists of Messrs. Scott Haultain, Shepherd and Gillis.

The free text book bill passed the third reading, clauses being added to show the expenditure in each school district during the year and the government agreed to the suggestion of Mr. Haultain that any further contract entered into would be brought before the house at the next session.

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(Established 1886)

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GREAT BUSH FIRE WEST OF THE CITY

Many Miles of Timber Licked up by Flames—Property Loss Great.

(From Monday's Bulletin.)

One of the most disastrous bush fires in the history of the country swept through the district 70 miles west of Edmonton on Thursday of last week, leaving in its wake nothing but blackened tree trunks, devastated homesteads and the ruins of a rich, thickly-wooded country. Miles upon miles of country have been swept bare of verdure by this fire, and the loss in property will be large.

Charles Tompkins, of the contracting firm of Tompkins & Fitzgerald, who have the contract for grading six miles of the right of way of the G.T.P. about seventy miles west of Edmonton, arrived in the city on Saturday. He gave a graphic description of the fire. It was only after hours of fighting that a change of wind saved his firm's construction camp from destruction. The strain of the strenuous fight against the fire still remains fresh in the minds of the few men who fought the fierce flames for hours.

Mr. Tompkins stated that bush fires have been raging in that country for the past three weeks. There has been very little rain this spring and the grass and underbrush is as dry as tinder. On Thursday of last week a strong wind carried the fire directly towards the railway camp of Fitzgerald & Tompkins. The green spruce trees burned fiercely and balls of fire were carried on the wind and rained down on the little cluster of buildings. The men at work on the grade were hastily summoned, and leaving their horses in charge of one of their number, they hurried to the camp. Pails and tubs were seized and the men set to work to thoroughly wet the stables and houses. Just when the danger was greatest, and when it looked as if the whole camp, with thousands of dollars' worth of hay, oats, provisions and personal effects would be totally destroyed, the wind veered and the camp was saved.

"It was a close call," said Mr. Tompkins, "as close as I ever had, and I do not want a repetition of it. Our camp was on a hill and I had cleared and burned the brush from around it and thought we were safe. The wind was so high, however, that the fire would have cleared it easily. Only the thorough wetting of the camp and the change of wind saved us."

Mr. Tompkins reports great loss through the country by homesteaders as a result of the fire. Many of them have been completely burned out, losing their household effects, stock and buildings. At Noyes Crossing the fire threatened at one time to completely destroy the buildings erected there. All the men at that place turned out to fight the fire and checked it with the loss of only one barn and a valuable horse.

STRIKERS AT OWEN SOUND SHOT DOWN

Longshoremen's Strike Assumes Serious Proportions—Attempt Made to Prevent Unloading of Steamer Results in Bloodshed.

Owen Sound, May 11—The strike of C. P. R. longshoremen and truckers assumed serious propositions this morning when the strikers commenced throwing coal at C. P. R. officials on the steamer Dundee, lying at the docks. In the melee which followed three strikers were shot but not seriously hurt. Two detectives were badly beaten. The mayor had to read the riot act. Further trouble is feared. The following are known to be injured: Detective Wright, C. P. R. detective, skull, fractured by club, dangerously injured. Another C. P. R. detective is slightly hurt. Edward O'Brien, a Toronto druggist, looking on was shot in the thigh. James Lambie, Hanover, a striker, was shot in the ankle; James McIntosh, Owen Sound, a striker, was severely beaten about the head.

The battle arose through the company trying to unload the C. P. R. steamer Dundee with the aid of strikebreakers from Toronto, but hundreds of strikers interfered and threatened to use force.

Three C. P. R. officials were on the vessel: General Supt. Osborne, Solicitor MacMurchy, and Divisional Supt. Nelson. In repulsing the strikers the detectives commenced shooting, which was necessary to save the lives of the officials. After the fight all work was stopped and the strikers and officials came up to town. A conference was held which resulted in the company making the best offer yet, but the men refused to accept. Two hundred regular troops from Stanley barracks, are in Toronto under arms and ready to proceed to Owen Sound at half an hour's notice.

Montcalm is Again Afloat.

Quebec, May 14—The government steamer Montcalm was successfully floated this afternoon by the Messrs. Davies, whose divers succeeded at low tide in blocking all the holes in the steamer. The steamer was moved back so as to prevent the bow singing again.

PREMIER TAKES FIELD IN ELECTIONS ACT DEBATE

In Masterful Exposition of the Principle of the Bill and the Causes Imperatively Demanding such Legislation, Sir Wilfrid Discloses the Pitiful Weakness of the Opposition Criticism and the Tactics Pursued in Effort to Prevent Passage of Bill by Refusing to Vote Supply.

Ottawa, May 12.—In the House of Commons to-day Premier Laurier took up the cudgels in the Elections Act debate and in a speech remarkable for its frankness and clearness showed the imperative necessity for legislation to remedy the defects in the present system under which the Federal election lists are prepared in Manitoba and British Columbia.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier said the leader of the Opposition had appealed to him personally against the provisions of the bill, and to that appeal he considered it his duty to give a respectful hearing. He wished to say at once that he held himself entirely responsible for the bill. The government had introduced it for what they considered to be good and sufficient reasons, and if it would be his endeavor to show the House what these reasons were. He did not pretend that he was better than his fellow members, but he did not believe that he was worse.

"I am a plain man," said Sir Wilfrid, "and deal with a plain question in a plain way. I have no hesitation in saying that I am a partizan, but in all fairness to myself I do not believe that I would willingly strike below the belt in order to gain an unfair advantage of an opponent."

The Key of the Opposition.

He thought he understood fully the motive of the Opposition to the bill and especially of the members of the province of Manitoba. They dreaded the effect of the law of their own province if it were to be administered, not by officers to be appointed by themselves, but by officers appointed by the Dominion Government. He assured the Opposition that there were men on the government side of the House who dreaded the effect of that law if it was to continue to be administered, as it had been, by officers appointed by their opponents, it would be the case if the bill was not passed by the House. Those who supported it dreaded the effect of the existing law in Manitoba, not in anticipation, but from past experiences. If they were to approach the question without any equivocation, but in justice between man and man, it reduced itself to this, that the Opposition did not want to go before the country on electoral lists prepared by their opponents, while they on the government side of the House did not care to go to the country on electoral lists prepared by their opponents. Upon the principle which should regulate and determine the franchise there had been always a deep line of cleavage between the two parties. The Liberal party had always maintained that unless there was some reason to the contrary, the lists should be prepared by the provincial authorities, whereas the gentlemen on the other side of the House had held the unqualified opinion that under all circumstances, the lists should be prepared by the Dominion Parliament. The Opposition had endeavored to prove that the government, in introducing that bill, was going back upon their record and departing from the policy they had always maintained. That criticism seemed to him singularly insane. He could have understood that criticism if the gentlemen opposite themselves were to maintain the policy they had always maintained, and if the government were inconsistent, what were the Opposition.

The Refusal To Vote Supply.

Was it not a fact, he asked, that in 1885 the Conservative party crammed down their throat a system whereby the lists were taken from independent officers and placed in the hands of officers appointed by themselves, yet, though in 1885 the Liberal party fought that measure as effectively and as vigorously as a measure ever was fought, they never thought of resorting to a refusal of supply to the disorganization of the public service. If there was a reason to refuse supply, the Liberal party had ten times more reason to do so in 1885 than the Opposition had at the present moment, because in the former case the measure which was introduced was to take the preparation of the lists from municipal officers and to place it in the hands of men appointed by the government of the day.

He thought his vanity was somewhat flattered by the course the debate had taken. Utterances of his from time to time had been diligently scanned and scrutinized by the members of the other side of the House. Mr. Borden and Mr. Aleorn had consumed the midnight oil in order to find an expression of opinion of his in favor of the view which they support at the present time. In the accomplishment of this task they had shown more ingenuity than disingenuity. He was misleading to take a sentence from a speech of his made in 1898 read by Opposition speakers, where he opposed the adoption of the principle of Dominion lists. If the leader of the Opposition had read a little farther he would have found that that sentence was qualified. If they had read on they would have found the following: "But if the day comes when a fraud is committed against this parliament, if legislation or a hostile character is brought forward in a legislature, then it will always be open for this parliament to resume its powers and to regulate the franchise."

Fitzpatrick of Same Opinion.

The Premier also read from speeches of the then solicitor-general, Sir Chas. Fitzpatrick, to the same effect. He held to the opinion, said Sir Wilfrid, that the preparation of the lists should be in the hands of the provincial authority. Still we had to keep watch over the provinces, and if we found that conditions arose which would not be fair to this House, then it would be our duty to resume our powers and to have the lists prepared by ourselves.

"I have to say that at this moment a condition of affairs has arisen in the Province of Manitoba which calls imperatively for legislation by this House."

In view of the facts, he asserted that the government would be recreant in their duty to themselves and to the people if they did not face the situation and pass legislation which the present condition of things in Manitoba imperatively demanded. In that province there were forty or forty-five local constituencies, and there were only ten Dominion constituencies and, therefore, when an election took place for the Dominion parliament it was of great importance to condense these forty odd lists into one. The question was who should do it. In 1904, that duty was cast upon the returning officers, and had proved to be of exceptional magnitude in Manitoba. Some of them shirked their duty, and called upon extraneous aid. Some of them called upon Mr. R. E. A. Leech, who was a Liberal organizer for the province. He admitted that it was injudicious on the part of these returning officers to call for the services of the Liberal organizer but he would not say it was criminal.

No Proof of Disfranchisement.

Mr. Leech had been charged by hon. gentlemen opposite with disfranchising thousands of electors. "Here and now," said Sir Wilfrid, "I take complete and absolute issue with that statement. I deny altogether that there is any proof against Mr. Leech or that Mr. Leech disfranchised anybody."

Opposition cries of "Oh!"

Sir Wilfrid—"Well, here and now is the time for both sides to discuss this question."

"I do not say that Mr. Leech may not have been guilty of some errors; that is quite possible. But to say that Mr. Leech or the returning officers deliberately and willfully disfranchised hundreds, nay, thousands of electors, there was no evidence of such a character."

Sir Wilfrid recalled that two years ago a committee of the House was appointed to enquire into these matters, and that on that committee were Mr. Stockton, Mr. Ingram and Mr. Barker, all good Conservatives and good fighters. The Conservative members of that committee went into that fight to unearth something and, judging by the eagerness displayed by the gentlemen on the other side of the House, he would not say to invent a scoundrel but to find a scoundrel. He did not think that if there had been a scoundrel there, they would have neglected such a splendid opportunity. He did not think that Mr. Barker would have neglected to show how guilty these Grits could be, and what dishonest acts they could perform.

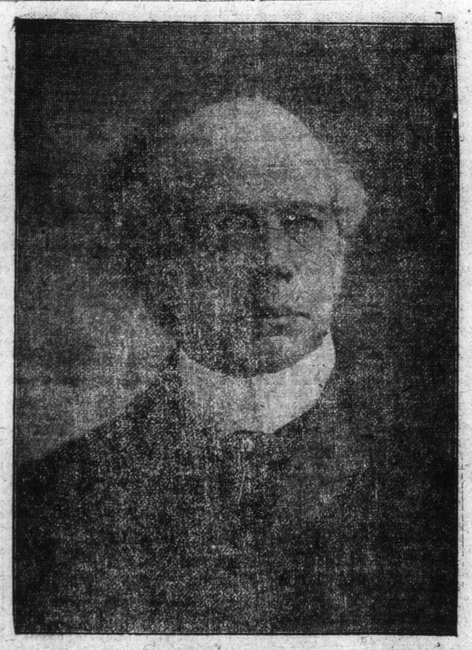
The Fake Prosecution.

More than that the government of Manitoba prosecuted these men and indicted three returning officers and Mr. Leech, and it went into the business very eagerly. But as time went on, the courage of those who had been so eager to expose villany, seemed to go down and down until at last it oozed out of the soles of their boots. Finally it was the accused who had to press for trial, and when they came for trial, the attorney general of Manitoba declined further to prosecute. Mr. Roche, of Marquette, had suggested reasons. According to Mr. Roche it was simply because of the magnanimity of the Conservative party that these men were not prosecuted. These men were told not to sin again. And yet they were told these men had been guilty of disfranchising thousands of electors. Was it also true magnanimity that Mr. Leech had not been prosecuted? Mr. Roche had said there was no use of having a prosecution, because they could not get a verdict before a jury. Were they to be told that there was a jury in the province of Manitoba who would acquit any man who was guilty of stealing the franchise from his fellowmen? He did not believe that. If no charge was made against Mr. Leech, he concluded it was because none could be made. If Mr. Leech had been guilty of having disfranchised a thousand of electors, it would have been the duty of every citizen of Manitoba to bring a charge against him in order to punish him for such practices and to prevent them in future. It would have been the duty of the government of Manitoba and of the Conservative party, and Sir Wilfrid added: "It would have been their pleasure." If, therefore, Mr. Leech was not brought to trial, the only conclusion they could draw was Mr. Leech was absolutely innocent of the infamous accusation brought against him.

Change in Law Imperative.

The conditions which prevailed in Manitoba with regard to the adjustment of the lists was a very serious one, and unless they had a change in the law, the returning officer would

Continued on page seven



SIR WILFRID LAURIER.

Premier of Canada, Who Yesterday Entered the Lists In Defense of the Proposed New Dominion Elections Act.

DIRT FLYING ALONG 120 MILE STRETCH

Grading Operations on G. T. P. to MacLeod Will be Completed Within Time Limit

(From Tuesday's Bulletin.)

Grading operations on the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway west of the city are in full swing. The large gangs of men employed by the various contractors are making the dirt fly all the way along the 120-mile stretch between the Clover Bar bridge and the Macleod River. Men are plentiful and the weather conditions are favorable, and as a result the work is being carried forward rapidly, and, barring accidents, the various sub-contractors hope to finish well within the contract time and to make money on the work.

A large number of these sub-contractors spent Sunday in the city, and all united in saying that the work was progressing very satisfactorily. Prominent among these men were Edward Phelan, of Omaha, senior member of the firm of Phelan and Shirley, who have the contract for grading the first 32 miles west of Clover Bar, including that portion of the line running through the city. Mr. Phelan is here on an inspection trip, to see how the construction work is progressing, and he expressed himself as very well satisfied with the progress that is being made by the sub-contractors on his division. He returned to Omaha on the C.P.R. today.

Other contractors in the city were Chris Nurenue, Charles Tompkins, John Timothy, John McNamara and others. These are all old railway contractors from Omaha, Nebraska, who have had extensive experience in railway construction work. Out on the grades near Edmonton huge scrapers drawn by from 12 to 16 horses are tearing up the earth, which is being dumped on the grade on the right of way. There are several fills to be made along the right of way, the largest being a 200,000 cubic yard fill near the Clover Bar bridge. The Canadian White Company have the contract for this work, and have a large force of men at work on it. Near the Griffin packing plant, by the old Fort Saskatchewan trail, is another depression, not so large as the other, which requires to be filled in. Contractor Nurenue has charge of this part of the work.

The various contractors with whom a Bulletin representative talked, declared that the cost of living and general expenses in this part of the country were not much higher than in the United States, where they have been working. Hay and oats are fairly plentiful and comparatively cheap. Food is perhaps a little dearer, but the increase is not very great. To counteract this increase the men are charged $4.50 and $5 per week for board and lodging, whereas in the States $4 per week is the maximum.

NOTED CATTLE THIEF KILLED BY SHERIFF

"Pigeon Toed Kid" Who Rustled Cattle in Montana, Alberta and Saskatchewan Dies Without Leaving Message.

Williston, N.D., May 11.—"Pigeon-Toed Kid", one of the few remaining bad men of eastern Montana, was killed by Deputy Sheriff Calderwood, at Bonnabe ranch, in Calley county, Montana, Thursday night, and his body brought to Culbertson in a spring wagon. The "Kid's" real name was J. C. Brown, and he was wanted for cattle rustling in both Montana, southern Saskatchewan and Alberta.

Sheriff Small learned his man was at the Bonnabe ranch and organized a posse, who made their way through the Popular Creek country unnoticed. The posse reached the ranch and the "Kid" was completely surprised.

When ordered to throw up his hands he reached for his gun and Calderwood shot him through the breast. The ball passed completely through the body and struck John Maxwell, herder, in the shoulder. The "Kid" fell as the gun dropped from his hands. He asked for writing material, but immediately became unconscious and died in less than an hour.

INCREASE IN IMPORTS.

Money Scarcity Causes a Falling Off For the Month.

Ottawa, May 14.—The Canadian trade figures for April show a continued large falling off in the imports consequent upon the restriction during the early months in the year of orders by the wholesalers for imported goods for the summer trade. It is expected that with the present bright outlook for the revival of trade next autumn, the imports will again pick up in the course of a month or so, and figures for the last half of the year will show a very considerable improvement over the first half. The total imports for last month were $20,201,409, a decrease of $8,133,878 as compared with April of last year. The exports of domestic products on the other hand show a slight increase. For the month the domestic exports totalled $10,294,828, as compared with $9,751,849. The grand total of Canadian trade for the month was $30,970,387, as compared with $40,725,969 for April, 1907.

BUSINESS OF THE COUNTRY HELD UP

Opposition to Blindly Continue Obstruction but Government Will Not be Bull Dozed.

Ottawa, May 13.—The seventh day of the debate on the Election Bill finds the Commons at a deadlock with the Opposition displaying a blind obstinacy in rejecting the reasonable and absolutely fair compromise offered yesterday by Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and, regardless of the inconsistency of their present attitude as contrasted with the position taken earlier in the debate, they are determined to continue their obstruction tactics and hold up the business of the country to the embarrassment of hundreds of members of the civil service throughout Canada, whose salaries cannot be paid until additional supplies are voted.

In caucus this morning the Opposition decided that they would be satisfied with nothing less than the complete withdrawal of the contentious first clause of the bill, providing for the remedying of the acknowledged defects in the present situation in Manitoba. Mr. Borden, in his speech this afternoon, took his party with him in a bold plunge of uncompromising opposition to the government's final concession. In the Conservatives must now lie the onus of deliberately and unreasonably blocking the whole business of parliament. Practically the Opposition now says to the government:

"While your proposals, as outlined by Sir Wilfrid Laurier's speech of yesterday, are not only desirable, but acceptable, and while we agree that some action is necessary, you must withdraw the present bill, otherwise we will not consent to pass one cent of supply."

Want Non-Partisan Measure.

The government, of course, believes the attitude they have now taken to be absolutely fair and right and cannot consent to be bull-dozed in any such manner. They are willing to let the people judge as to whether or not the Opposition in the present case is guided by any other motive than a desire to retain an unfair advantage, which the party has through the Roblin government's complete control and manipulation of the election lists in the province of Manitoba.

It may be noted that the very compromise offered yesterday by Sir Wilfrid was practically the one suggested on behalf of the Opposition by Dr. Roche, of Marquette. Sir Wilfrid, in keeping with the repeated declarations from the government side that all that was desired was a non-partisan measure fair to both parties, and that any suggestions from the other side would be treated in that spirit, accepted the basis of agreement as presented by Dr. Roche. In brief, that compromise was to leave to the non-partisan tribunal for county court judges the control of the Federal election lists in Manitoba.

Opposition is Inconsistent.

This proposal was considered fair by the Hon. Mr. Foster and accepted by him yesterday, and today Mr. Borden himself concurred in it, but with a complete disregard of the inconsistency of the Opposition's attitude, there followed a demand for the complete withdrawal of clause one of the bill with the proposed amendments. Yet with that clause withdrawn, there would be no means of applying the joint proposal of the Premier and the Opposition or of remedying the evils it is intended to cope with. It is thus apparent that what the Opposition really want is to continue the unfair party advantage which the Manitoba system now gives.

Naturally, the government believes in fair play to all alike, and has no intention of backing down before the threats of a blindly partisan minority. The debate will continue tomorrow, and from the developments of the next few days the people will be left to judge as to who is to blame for the continued unreasonable holding up of the country's business.

When the House opened Mr Borden wished to know what opportunity would be afforded between now and next January of continuing the marine department inquiry. Sir Wilfrid Laurier could give no definite information at the moment; it was necessary for him to consult Judge Cassels and the counsel.

The Premier expressed a hope that the enquiry would be finished long before January. Mr. Foster asked as to the present position of the Insurance Bill brought in at the beginning of the session. Mr. Fielding replied that some amendments were being prepared, which would be pressed before the banking and commerce committee. Although the finance minister did not state so definitely, the inference is that the bill will go through the House this session.

Militia For Tercentenary.

Col. Hughes asked if the report is true that the plan to mobilize 20,000 Canadian militia at Quebec is called off. Sir Frederick Borden replied that it had been decided to hold annual camps as usual, and that the city regiments would hold their regular annual drill. The reason for the change of programme was chiefly the difficulty of transportation. It had been represented to the department by the battlefields commission that the transportation of a large body of troops at the time of the Quebec celebration would seriously interfere with the transportation of thousands of

(Continued on Page Three)