

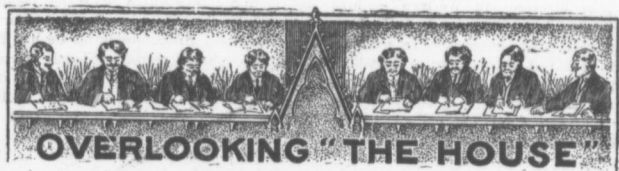
EVENTS

Published Weekly.

Vol. 7, No. 19.

OTTAWA, MAY 13, 1905.

Whole No. 320.



THE echoes of the division on the Autonomy Bill did not die out for several days. All sorts of analyses of the vote were made in the daily papers. It would seem that if the Province of Quebec did not exist there would have been a majority of 21 for the Bill. As it is there was a majority for it from almost every province of the Dominion. The opinion was very generally voiced by both Liberals and Conservatives, that the course of the Opposition leader on this question was a mistaken one. There was hardly any precedent for the utter collapse of opposition to any legislation in the history of this Dominion such as took place in regard to this bill.

The House went into committee as a whole on the following day, May 4th, on the resolutions providing for the payment

of subsidy to the province of Alberta. The rate of 80 cents per head is based on an estimated population of 250,000. A census is to be taken every five years, and the amount of this allowance will be increased according to the increase of population, until the population reaches 800,000. The limitations placed upon the original provinces by the B. N. A. Act are discarded in this legislation, and leading members of the Government state that they could never understand why these limitations were made, which shows that the B. N. A. Act is far from being an instrument applicable to the Dominion of Canada as it exists now. Indeed, Sir Wilfrid Laurier declared that the system of giving subsidies to the provinces was open to very serious objection but, he added, having adopted it at the time of Confederation we have to