

PARLIAMENT.

OTTAWA, March 1.—This was a... political history making day in both the commons and the senate. In the lower house, Laurier announced Sifton's resignation, and in the senate Sir Mackenzie Bowell said he did not remember making use of the word "nest of traitors" in regard to his colleagues in the conservative cabinet, but he felt today he should have understood them and prevent any misunderstanding he would utter them now.

The commons galleries were packed as never before this session, and every member at the capital was in his seat. The rumor having spread that Sifton's resignation, which Laurier had carried in his pocket for several days, would be proclaimed by the Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, it is clear that Sifton had thrown up his portfolio because, in his own words, he could not accept the separate school plan of the autonomy measure.

FOSTER WELL POSTED. The ex-minister of finance had every phase of Sifton's political record on the tip of his fingers, and put it straight that neither he, Greenway, nor any of his associates could endorse a separate school bill even when concealed beneath an autonomy bill cloak. Sifton's resignation, said Foster, had come as a surprise to either side of the house. He had been treated as Blair had been treated.

There were other rumors to the effect that Mr. Fielding, too, was dissatisfied with the school question's treatment, as well as the financial part of the bill, which had been prepared while he was absent in Europe, though the finance minister should have been consulted with the cabinet. Mr. Foster spoke of Mr. Sifton's consent to the separate school provision, provincially and federally, and expressed his pleasure that he would still retain his seat in the commons, and that he was not so poor financially as to suffer from the loss of his ministerial salary.

MACLEAN'S SPEECH. MacLean of York, Ontario, who followed Foster, turned the tables on Laurier's excited remarks of a couple of days ago, by asking who was the occupant of a ramshackle house, or the utterer of a ramshackle speech. He flatly accused the premier of taking to his lap the blame of the school question from Three Rivers and Quebec, but the concessions so far proffered by the premier in tinkering the autonomy bill had failed to reach the heart of the matter, in public life in Canada today, not have they touched the heart of the matter, in public life in Ontario, and Laurier is growing tired of Laurier's rule.

CONGRATULATED SIFTON. Col. Sam Hughes congratulated Mr. Sifton on standing true to his school record of 1895, and with having the willingness to withstand the blandishments of the premier and his colleagues, when Mr. Laurier again shouldered his musket the boys of Ontario would make use of their rifles.

IN FAVOR OF THE BILL. Guthrie of South Wellington on the other hand came out flatly in favor of the bill, but made such a mess of it that it took Sir Wilfrid Laurier several minutes to explain to the house just what the hot headed young orator had intended to say.

PREMIER'S TAMER REMARKS. Healed by Foster and Haggart, the premier took the floor at 4:25 p. m., but beyond some tame utterances generally failed to answer a single point presented by the opposition speakers. His excuse was that when the bill came up for discussion would be the time to deal with the main school question. It was particularly noticeable that he did not say one word in Fielding's defence, while the astute minister of finance sat placidly in his seat with his usual pleasant smile.

After this debate was over the house took up agricultural estimates in supply until six o'clock. One of the most significant features of this afternoon's debate was Foster's direct reference to the bill name that Fielding was kicking against the autonomy bill coupled with the silence of the finance minister and Laurier's failure to make any defence of his colleague, the only one of the old guard provincial premiers he had called to his assistance when he made up his mind of business men. Tarte has arrived at the capital, and that any truth in the rumor that he and Blair intend to banquet Sifton this week.

RICHARDSON INTERVIEWED. MONTREAL, March 1.—R. L. Richardson, ex-M. P. for Leger, who opposed Sifton in Brandon at the last general election, in Montreal, discussing the resignation, said: "I have understood that for some time

Johnston of Cape Breton, put up a bluff hustling speech in defence of the management of the I. C. R. under the grip rule. The house rose at eleven o'clock with the promise that Emmerson's estimates would be continued tomorrow.

OTTAWA, March 3.—Sifton absolutely refuses to be interviewed, saying that all he had to utter was given from his place in the house. Greenway, too, is reticent. Premier Haultain, who is here, says the situation, while critical, points to a reconciliation of Laurier and Sifton, but that the entire incident will be Laurier's political disaster, more so than anything since he came into power. It is a case, in his mind, where the conservatives can rest on their oars and let the liberal party do the fighting and worrying.

OTTAWA, March 1.—The night sitting of the house was devoted to I. C. R. matters, Emmerson reading of much length a typewritten speech which he launched by the premier without notice to him, just as had the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway bill been projected without reference to the recent minister of railways and canals. Mr. Sifton, said Mr. Foster, had been directly ignored by the premier, who might have touched the wires and communicated to him the intelligence that the autonomy bill contained a direct separate school provision. There were telegraph offices in every town in the United States where Mr. Sifton had tarried. The deliberate action of the prime minister and his cabinet made it abundantly clear that it was their intention to get rid of Mr. Sifton at all cost.

OTTAWA, March 2.—The cabinet crisis is still on. Laurier only spent a few minutes in the house today, being concerned with more pressing duties. Fielding, too, did not stay long. One of Sifton's closest friends told me that all efforts so far to induce the minister of interior to come back had failed to move him, and that Sir Wilfrid Laurier would have to come to Mr. Sifton's terms to heal the breach. Sifton in all things save the school question is loyal to the grip party, and has no present intention of supporting the opposition or doing anything to make matters harder for his old colleagues.

Mr. Fielding's position is, however, tonight the overshadowing topic. He has not cut the traces that bind him to Laurier's chariot, but he is straining them severely. Sir William Mulock, too, is beginning to feel the pressure of public opinion outside of Quebec, and is far from easy.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, however, holds the whip hand, and has a solid contingent at his back. Should he threaten to resign the premiership he would instantly create a host of weak-kneed ministers into submission. It is apparent, however, that no matter what the immediate issue is Laurier's prestige will be greatly undermined by what has just happened and is likely to happen.

The conservatives are not concerning themselves over the cabinet crises, but are confidently awaiting the final result which must be to their advantage. The present disruption, following so fast on the provincial revolt in Ontario, is only another sign that Canada is growing tired of Laurier's rule.

Sifton is not pleading to be taken back. It is Laurier who is the supplicant, and a new role indeed, for the autocrat.

OTTAWA, March 2.—There was an atmosphere of expectancy in the commons chamber this afternoon, when prayers had been said in the usual preliminary way, but no questions of moment were asked by the opposition members, and Laurier did not volunteer any information as to the cabinet disturbances. There is no disguising the fact that a possible effort is being made to induce Sifton to stand by his ship, but the concessions so far proffered by the premier in tinkering the autonomy bill had failed to reach the heart of the matter, in public life in Canada today, not have they touched the heart of the matter, in public life in Ontario, and Laurier is growing tired of Laurier's rule.

Whereas, in the public press and official debates of the house of commons (page 1,444) Mr. Black, M. P. for Hants, N. S., is reported as follows: "I say that one good Canadian whose life has been saved is better than a score of Doukhobors or a hundred Englishmen."

THE LOCH LOMOND BILL. A meeting of the bills and by-laws committee was held yesterday afternoon in the city. The committee was chiefly engaged in a discussion of the draft of the water extension bill which the recorder had prepared. With a few slight modifications the draft was accepted, and will be sent up to the common council with the request that it be referred to a special meeting of a committee of the whole council. This meeting will be held Tuesday afternoon.

IMPERIAL CENSURE. ST. PETERSBURG, March 4.—Imperial censure has been administered to the university of St. Petersburg on account of the disturbances of February 20, when the emperor's portrait was destroyed. The rector has been reprimanded and all the students have been rusticated, but were granted permission to petition for readmission.

CASTORIA For Infants and Children. The Kind You Have Always Bought. Bears the Signature of Dr. J. C. Watson.

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At the University. Rearrangement of Engineering and Science Classes—Appointment of Prof. Jack's Successor.

SONS OF ENGLAND. Censure Mr. Black of Hants For His Uncomplimentary Statements About Englishmen.

OTTAWA, March 3.—The Sons of England of Canada are after the scalp of Black of Hants, Nova Scotia, for his insulting reference to the men born in the British Isles. Derby Lodge of Ottawa has passed the following resolution, a copy of which has been forwarded to Mr. Black. Other lodges over Canada have also taken the matter up.

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Grocers' Guild and Sugar Refiners. Conditions Which Give Rise to the Action Brought by Wholesale Dealers of Hamilton.

The action commenced by Nesbitt & Co. of Hamilton against the Dominion and Ontario Grocers' Guilds is being watched with some interest by wholesale grocers here. The charge made against the guilds is that they have forced the sugar refiners and other manufacturers to sell only to them, such an agreement being against public policy and tending to monopoly.

The Dominion Grocers' Guild has been in existence since 1878, but it is only within the last few years that it has been making its influence felt. The guild was formed by the amalgamation of three and four years ago, for the purpose of settling prices and endeavoring to put an end to competition.

At the University. Rearrangement of Engineering and Science Classes—Appointment of Prof. Jack's Successor.

Yesterday's Fredericton papers contain the following account of the recent changes in the staff of the University of New Brunswick. The university authorities have issued the following statement:

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WOLFVILLE'S FIRST FUNERAL. Being an Account of the Obsequies of One Jack King—From "Wolfville," By Alfred Henry Lewis.

"These yere obsequies which I'm about to mention," observed the Old Cattleman "is the first real funeral Wolfville has had."

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MONCTON COUNCIL. Had lively session yesterday—Early Navigation in Northern Bay—Straits Likely.

SUSSEX CARNIVAL. SUSSEX, March 3.—The second carnival of the season was held in the Alhambra rink last evening and was attended by quite a number of spectators and skaters.

Book's Cotton Root Compound. It is especially used monthly by over 100,000 women.