HANDS OFF MANITOBA

The Feeling Emphatically Expressed by the Great Meeting in Toronto.

Strong Speeches by Hon. Joseph Martin, Clarke Wallace and Others.

Memorial Adopted for Presentation to the Dominion Parliament.

Following is the concluding portion of meeting held in Massey Hall, Toronto:

HON JOSEPH MARTIN. Mr. Joseph Martin, of Winnipeg, was received with volley after volley of cheers. He said: The question which you are met here to consider has been spoken of in the press as one of great difficulty. So far as I am concerned, I must say that I have not now and hope, in considering it, that you who doctrine being taught in one school at not have "business engagements," that never had any doubt or trouble or difficulty. (Applause.) It is my simple suggestion of Mr. McCarthy and be preduty as a citizen of Manitoba, as a pared to go as far as I, as a Liberal, Liberal of Manitoba, to stand by the am prepared to go, and refuse to give position which Manitoba has taken upon any support whatever to the governthis question. (Applause.) In doing that | ment which, in the face of the facts | I am prepared to sacrifice every other at- and the constitution, undertakes to | tachment which I have in politics. (Ap- override the legislation of Manitoba. plause.) For me this question is sup- The man who says "I am against the reme, the question which overshadows government on this question, but I supevery other mater in Dominion politics, port it on all other questions," is all important and great as many of these right enough when the question is one other matters are. If the Liberal party of inferior magnitude. If my party is to which I belong, and always have be- to get into power by means of coercion longed, or if the Liberal leader now, or I am going to prevent them as far as I taught. at any time, shall take a stand which can. I say if my party comes into pow- laughter of the audience. He was sur- The important question is the Manitoba I consider unjust to Manitoba, I shall er, and proposes to act as this governregretfully and sorrowfully-because I ment proposes to act. I shall do all that am attached to the Liberal party and is in my power to keep them out. If He said: "I don't want any commist come forward and be fructified into life because I am attached to the Liberal the Liberals are prepared to go back on sion; I have investigated and I have ar- and do what they have failed to do. leader—I shall. I say, regretfully and their party in this question, are the rived at the conclusion that separate We are living under a constitution that sorrowfully leave the Liberal party and Conservatives prepared to do likewise? schools are an unmitigated evil and not has assigned to every province the oppose the Liberal leader. (Applause.)

As Mr. McCarthy has suggested, I

Stration. It has been said that this is a At a time when English-speaking peomatters, and when an effort is made to on wrapper) 65 cts.

Consecutive for the good of the country."

Tight to control its own educational at a time when English-speaking peomatters, and when an effort is made to on wrapper) 65 cts. shall oppose the Liberal party and the non-partizan political demonstration. It ple all over the world were ready to sup- interfere with Manitoba in the exercise Liberal leader upon the question alone must be a political gathering, because port England in her splendid isolation, of that right, we cannot stand by and of the coercion of Manitoba, and if those who have the responsibilities of it was astounding that there should be allow it to go on without trying to pre-Manitoba is to be coerced, upon every the act are the government of the day, a bill introduced to set class against vent it. That principle was recognized other question, in order that the party which to-day is Conservative, but class; a bill utterly indefensible in all in the British North America act, in the shall not attain power, if not already in which, two months from to-day may be its provisions. power, or being in power shall not con- Liberal. tinue in power to coerce the province to I am afraid that what I have now to which I belong. (Applause.) We are say may not be in entire harmony with Turning to its clauses, as he held a principle to-day? I mistake the feeling here to-night because of the passage iy this meeting. But it is right that I a government in its last stages of what should say it for the purpose of setting is known as a remedial order. Let me myself right, and if what I say doesn't remind you of what the essential features of that order is. Manitoba is com- hope that I will be excused for that reamanded by it to restore to the minority son. A great has been said throughout of the province the right to maintain Canada with regard to certain expres-Roman Catholic separate schools in the sions which I myself used in connection manner provided by the statutes which with this matter and which have been were repealed by the acts of 1890. By held to mean that I condemned my own these acts Separate schools had the bill as a rank tyranny. Let me explain right to share proportionately in any briefly how that occurred. It is needgrant made out of the public funds for

cause it is said that the constitution guarantees to the inhabitants the edsubsequent years. I don't believe that the constitution contains any such provision. (Applause.)

It must be this, then: We had in

Manitoba what we considered a bad and infirm educational law. Had that law been ten times more infirm and ten times worse, we would have been equally bound, according to this interpretation, not to interfere with it. That law, bad as it was, was passed, because at that time, in 1871, the population of Manitoba was composed about equally of French and English speaking settlers. Supposing that, instead of being one half French, the poulation had been two-thirds or three-quarters French and had passed a law, going much further than this and oppressing the minority, then, if this interpretation is correct, we would be equally bound, because it does not say what the law is, but on whether that law, whatever it might be, constituted a grievance against the minority, which the Dominion government is bound to remedy. I repudiate that doctrine. (Applause.) And if it be shown to be incorrect, all the justification for remedial legislation falls to the ground. There is another interpretation of the constitution, which I submit as the correct one. And that is that there is a provision in the constitution, under which the minority have the right to appeal to the privy council at Ottawa, and under which the privy council has the right to investigate and take evidence, and, if it considers that a case has been made out, to pass remedial legislation. That has not been done The remedial order was passed without investigation. The law

I am sorry to say that I cannot agree with what has been said by speakers preceding, to the effect that the remedthat 25 members on the government there are more than 25 on the governhave to deal with the facts as they are, party of Ontario? and I am afraid that in many cases these gentlemen have personal reasons | Conservative party? Has it not been there gentlemen don't intend to run when we were fighting that battle, or again, many of them have in their pock- were the Conservatives a lot of hypoets promises of office or promotion to crites? We fought that battle honestly

read nor write.

the senate. of "So he should.") With regard to of the province. (Cheers.) And again that, all I can say is that Mr. Laurier | the Conservatives of Ontario are going | was not directly invited to attend this to fight straight on that line in refermeeting. (Hear, hear, and applause.) ence to the Manitoba schools. We are ably he would have sent the same mess- establish the separate school system.

(Applause.) And I must say that, while I have found Mr. Craig generally fairwith the spirit of this meeting to cast any reflection upon a member of parliament occupying the elevated position of Mr. Laurier, especially as he is pre-

the audience.

"I say yes," replied Mr. Martin, Continuing, he said that the resolution bethe report of the great anti-coercion not because it is put forward by the Union. Liberal party, but because it has been are Conservatives will lay to heart the

meet with the approval of everyone. 1 less to say that I never called the bill the purpose of education. They had the which I drew myself and introduced right to the exemption of such Roman into the legislature, and for which I Catholics as contributed to Roman feel the full responsibility, a rank tyr-Catholic schools for all payments and anny; but what I did say was this: Catholic schools for all payments and "Mr. Ouimet, an ardent advocate of subject—to impose this remedial bill upto control their own educational affairs.

The remedial legislation coercion, said in an interview with a son the Manitoba people. Mr. Wallace Neither did it contemplate interference asks us to repeal in whole the statutes newspaper reporter, that all the Roman next quoted from the recent letters of with the provincial authorities in repassed in 1890, after due delibera- Catholics of Manitoba desired was the Roman Catholic bishops, instructing tion, and with the approval of nine- right to have religious exercises in their their people how to vote, and was loud- that the people have spoken, they have schools, without interfering with secheld, of the people of the province. (Ap- ular education. Having seen the report famous phrase "hell-inspired hypoplause.) And why is that asked? Be- of that interview I wrote to the Ottawa crites." Citizen, saying that if that was the under which we are living in Manitoba | fact there was a misapprehension on liament are to be dictated to by the the part of the people of Manitoba, and Roman Catholic church, then parliaucational law as enacted in 1871, and that while I myself had been, and still mentary government is a farce. (Loud was, opposed to any kind of religious cheers.) In view of such influence, it exercises in the schools, still, if religible is time, he said, we formed a party on ous exercises acceptable to Protestants the other side; not in a threatening way resolution. While it has been remarkwere allowed, and religious exercises but in self-defence of our liberties and acceptable to Roman Catholics refused, rights. There never has been, he add- rive of Toronto here, I desire to say

> The motion was then put and carried. MR. CLARKE WALLTACE. Mr. Clarke Wallace, M.P., was greeted with great cheering on rising to move third resolution, which was as fol-

> That, inasmuch as the difficulties involved in the attempt at federal interference will fall upon the people of Canada, the people ought to have an opportunity of pronouncing on the policy before they are committeed to the enactment of the federal law.

lows:

And, therefore, that this meeting, in no spirit of hostility to the Catholics. but with a sincere desire to see justice done to all classes and creeds of the community, protests against the passage of the so-called remedial bill, as subversive of provincial autonomy, injurious to those for whose benefit it is ostensibly framed, and likely to evoke strife, to keep alive sectarian bitterness, and to impede the progress of the Do-

Mr. Wallace said he was delighted to have an opportunity of meeting the citizens of Toronto in that magnificent meeting, which represented not only the influence of the city of Toronto but the whole of the province of Ontario. (Cheers.) He believed if a count were made of the Conservatives of Ontario nine out of ten would vote against remedial legislation. (Renewed cheers.) vas passed by a lot of buffalo-hunting Conservative members were told if they halfbreeds, many of whom could neither did not vote for the remedial bill they would be read out of the Conservative party. (Laughter.) For myself, said he, I decline to vote for the bill. On the contrary, I shall give it my strongest ial legislation will not pass. I cannot agree with Mr. McCarthy when he says be read out of the Conservative party. A good number of those who are here, side will oppose that bill. I believe that more who are not here, will say the same. Who authorized, he asked, the ment side whose constituents demand government to-day to thrust the remedithat they shall oppose that bill, but we al legislation policy on the Conservative

What is the record of the Ontario which will prevent them carrying out for many years resistance of the separthe wish of their constituents. Many of ate school system? Were we sincere and sincerely; we believed that the Mr. Craig has said that Mr. Laurier separate school system was an injury

and would be glad, to address the elec- been fought in the old countries. There opposed to an expiring government pass and would be glad, to address the electrons of Toronto upon this question, but has been the ecclesiastical demand to have been the eccl first address on the question when he ed the contest they had failed. (Cheers.) press the voice of the people. Twostood up in the house of commons at the The people, as they become more intellisecond reading of the bill to oppose it. gent refuse to have dogmas taught in were not entitled to vote at the last the schools. The attempt of the church relection. The people who elected the to teach her doctrines in the schools present members are not the people to has always been a failure. Look at whom they will have to answer now. minded, I hardly think it was in keeping the ignorance of Spain and Italy; and An expiring parliament has no right to why? Because the education of those fasten on this Dominion a remedial law countries has been in the hands of the which is irremedial. church. But there is a new era compriests have been seeking to get posses-

And yet in the face of these facts we eventually be settled by the appeal to separate schools with the Roman Cathethe country which is so close at hand. lies. I am altogether against separate -(hisses)-that when this bill comes up the expense of the state in another. In (Applause.) It is unfortunate for To in another that it is wrong.

> tics refused admission to the inspectors backs would have been stiffened. appointed by the Hon. G. W. Ross to The resolution was put and carried. see what had been done with the people's money in regard to education. The speaker gave specimens of the ignorance of the children in the branches Every country in the world, said he, prised that there should be a desire for school question, and if our public men investigation of the Manitoba schools, are not able to deal with it, others will

> The heirarchy, said he, must have this estates act, and in the Manitoba act bill made to suit themselves. lace showed that the government pre- so. The principle is this: Shall cils in part of one clause, and took the controlled by the church or by same power away in another clause. state? If controlled by the church, it

ly cheered when he quoted the now If, said Mr. Wallace, members of parthen, in my opinion, I said it would be ed, such a barefaced demand to bulldoze that Mr. Wallace and myself represent rank tyranny, and I stay by that." (Ap and bully the parliament of Canada as over 40,000 of the citizens of Toronto, in the past few weeks. (Loud cheers.) and in us you have, at least, two repre-The church had even ventured to tell sentatives who intend to vote against the leader of the opposition how to the remedial bill, no matter what the

told to take their orders from the enter my protest as a Conservative and church, but, thank God, some of them as a Canadian. As a Conservative I had not bowed the knee to Baal, and fook occasion to tell my leaders I could never will. (Loud chering.) In conclusion, Mr. Wallace said he believed the people of Ontario would for the many reasons given to-night and never sanction the machinery of the for the additional reason that I don't

church being used to place on the stat- want to interfere with the great provute book a measure obnoxious to the ince of Manitoba in its educational legwant to interfere with the great province of Manitoba in its educational legislation, and I don't want to interfere with the great province as well as Roman Catholics. We ask no favors, nor will we deny to any minority any rights to olics. We ask no favors, nor will we the development of our country, and deny to any minority any rights to ever since this question, like a spectre, which they are entitled, but we do not be the bound and driven. We extend our hand in peace, brother and driven.

of joining with this immense assembly in protesting against the so-called Remedial Legislation, and also in showing that whatever difference there may be on other questions, our view on this question is the view shared by men of all shades of political life. I desire to share in the demonstration because it shows that whatever may be the difference in our reasons we have all arrived at the same conclusion of settled, deter mined hostility to the so-called remedial bill. For my own part I say I am opposed to this bill, not merely on one ground, but for every reason that has been advanced here to-night. I oppose it chiefly because it is a coercive measure, not a remedial one. I oppose it because the necessity for it has not been demonstrated. There has been no proper enquiry to justify it. The government in introducing the measure was not justified in so doing without an enquiry into the facts. The government last June made an appeal to Manitoba and got an answer back demanding an investigation, and Manitoba was entitled to that investigation. I am opposed to remedial legislation, because there has been no enquiry, and I am in favor should have been here himself. (Cries to the Roman Catholics and to the whole of an enquiry, because an enquiry would defeat this legislation, or at least prevent the question from coming up at the present session. I would implore Mr. Craig not to refuse to vote But if he had been invited, prob- going to fight against the proposal to for the amendment that will be introduced to ask for delay. I am opposed age which he has sent, and would have This is no new question; it is moss- to an expiring government passing judgsaid that he was prepared at any time, grown with centuries. The battle has ment on a matter of this kind. I am

I have made an appeal to the memmencing. It is the same in Mexico and bers who sit here and who are said to pared to carry out the spirit of the resolution you have before you. (Apthrown off the ecclesiastical yoke and bers of the house of commons. Let us declared that the state shall educate stand on one ground, and that the de "Will Mr. Laurier oppose the bill on the children. Are we to take up the feat of this bill. W join with you; let its second reading?" asked some one in cast-off clothes of those half-civilized you join with us. Don't let this be a nations? (Shouts of "No, no.") In the bargain on one side. The Liberal party United States archbishops, bishops and is opposed to this bill, because it i coercive; but the Liberal party is op fore the meeting asked for more perfect sion of the schools, but they have fail- posed not only to a coercive bill but alinformation. I am for a commission, ed, and now there is a public school so to the coercion of parliament, and he went on, I am for an investigation, system in every state of the American any deserters there may be from the people's cause will not be from the Lib erals. (Applause.) Let us take care of challenged and asked for by the pro- are told that it is necessary to thrust the Liberals. See that you take care of vince which I represent. (Applause.) an obnoxious system down the throats the Conservatives. We join with you on I regret to think that the remedial of the people of Manitoba. The Pres- one ground; join with us on the other. legislation will be carried by the house byterians, the Anglicans, the Methodists. This is a fair bargain; we will keen of commons; but the question must and the Baptists have an equal right to our part of it. (Applause.) I am going to appeal to the members from Toronto There your duty will commence, and I schools. You have the spectacle of one for discussion in the house, they will the expense of the state and denied at will prevent them from being there. one set of schools they are taught the ronto that whenever its citizens hold Roman Catholic doctrine is right, and mass meetings the engagements of its members prevent them from being pres-Mr. Wallace here referred to the re- ent Let it be understood that the nec port of the commission in reference to ple of Toronto are in earnest, and that the Ottawa separate schools. It was they have made default in not being no wonder, said he, that the ecclesias- present. If they had been here their

THE LAST RESOLUTION. Dr. Sproule, M.P., East Grey, moved the next resolution, which was the last. These instances eyoked the has its epochs. Canada has its now, Nova Scotia school act, in the Jesuits'

itself Shall we, then, depart from that copy of the bill in his hand, Mr. Wal- of the citizens of Canada if they will do tended to give power to municipal coun- educational interests of this country be The municipal councils would be under must be by one church, and that the the sanction of the Catholic Board of Roman Catholic church. Nearly 40 Education. The people of Manitoba, years ago we recognized the principle said he, come largely from Ontario, of state control of education, and in They are equal in intelligence and de- 1866, 1867 and 1868, when we gave sepsire for justice and fair play to any arate schools, we declared that the other section of the Canadian people. state should control them. But we are They are anxious to do nothing to mili- told that the privilege, having once been tate against the prosperity of Manito- given, cannot be taken away. We adba. They prefer the public school sys- mit that there is such a clause in the tem, and yet are asked by the govern- British North America act, but we de ment-by the Premier of this Domin- ny that it ever contemplated taking spoken against interference; yet the government has heeded not the voice. Therefore, I ask you to stand by your who are ready to support those princi-

ples which you recognize to be right. MR. MACLEAN'S SOLUTION. In response to several calls, Mr. W. . Maclean, M.P., also spoke to the vote. Members of parliament had been consequences may be. (Applause.) I not vote for this bill when it came up in parliament. I will vote against it deny to any minority any rights to which they are entitled, but we do not consider separate schools to be right or justice." (Loud cheering.)

A HEARTY LEGAL APPROVAL.

Mr. J. R. Ker, Q.C., seconded the resolution. He said: In seconding the resolution I must take a word to say how glad I am to have the opportunity

Me extend our hand in peace, brother hood and affection, saying that such an opportunity—surrounded as it is with contentions and aggravated by importunities—never before was offered to unite the province, and year in and year out there will be nothing but this race and hove the opportunity any reversions, like a spectre, has hovered over the house and driven every other matter into the background. So that we have been doing nothing but those whom we have been led to believe instigated it, we will have reason to thank God and open our arms more thank God and open our arms more to the house and driven every other matter into the background. So that we have been doing nothing but those who we shall be asked to keep it open for every other province, and year in and year out there will be nothing but this race and the content into the background. So that we have been doing nothing but the saked to unite the province of confederation. If it is refused, such an opportunity again. That the contest, if persisted in may be final, we do not deny; if it is avoided by those whom we have been led to believe instigated it, we will have reason to thank God and open our arms more

Liberal, meet and agree to keep this question out of the house, and agree that the provinces shall settle such questions themselves, and you will never hear of it again. If Mr. Bowell and Mr. Laurier would meet and decide upon that course, a solution of the question could be reached at this session and all this trouble be avoided. There will be meetings like this all over Ontario, and the government at Ottawa must be influenced by the voice of Ontario, which will be what the voice of Toronto is to-night. There is nobody trying to force this legislation but one away under the application of the rule class in Quebec, backed by sections of the Liberals and sections of the Conservatives of that province, and the government, which foolishly committed itself to that question without consulting the party as it should have done.

The duty of the government is to take the voice of the people and to trust the people. If the people declare in favor of remedial legislation, then the government will have some reason for attempting to carry it out. But until such time as the people have so declared it is not desirable that the government should undertake to do something contrary to the constitution of the country which it pretends to uphold I shall take occasion, later on, to op-

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pose the bill in parliament and to do principles and support only those men what I can to defeat it. (Applause.) PETITION TO PARLIAMENT.

As a practical corollary to the passing of the above resolutions, the following petition to parliament was adopted. amid great cheering:

This mass meeting of the citizens of Toronto, which cannot be unrepresentative of the province of Ontario, respectfully asks the parliament of Canada to express to those who are forcing the Manitoba Remedial Bill upon Canada, our desire for a continuance of British connection and confederation. We are anxious for the increase of the glorious, inspiring and unifying impulse of patriotism, and for a better mutual understanding between the elecmutual understanding between the elements which, if welded together, will create a nation; but, while we are sincerely loyal to Great Britain and the constitution we desire to be true to ourselves.

The Remedial Bill we consider unnecessary unjust and impropagate Under the sary, unjust and imprudent. Under the circumstances it will benefit no one and injure all. It is in variance with the principle of provincial autonomy and of a united and harmonious citizenship; an in-

there will be nothing but this race and creed question. Bar the door once and forever. (Applause.) I am ready to put up the bar. (Applause.)

I have what I think is a solution of this question. It is this: Let the leaders of the two parties, Conservative and Liberal, meet and agree to keep this rights, should be enough to make our position tenable, and our proffer of unquestioned fraternity important to all, individually, as well as to the welfare of confederation, and to those "splendidly isolated isles" of which we are so proud, and to the empire of which Canada claims to be no unimportant part.

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ROVINGIAL

TWENTY-SE Mond Ralph W. Trotter.
Mr. Kitchen pres
behalf of some 200 wack in favor of t

Major Mutter mo dress be present tenant-governor, will cause urgent made to the Dom. have the necessary ings made of the Somas river with a view to the said bar, so as to e largest class to rea upper town of Alb thit was only right such promise of gro the one referred to, the government to The resolution pa

a resolution that th lested to direct M Cowichan-Alberni day, for the purpo ng upon the reporting hon the the minister in th matter was being drew the motion. Mr. Walkem mov ing the names of land surveyors who ment under the go past year, the date the names of those veyors who receive ment under the gov engagement, and

Mr. Macpherson of the house be gr all information co relative to the mu Columbia. CANADA WES

Mr. Sword mov address be presen ieutenant-governo cause to be laid be of all corresponde ernment, or any any person or pers panies, in relation struction of the B also any papers r Mr. Sword said great interest to t one is anxious to done and what Hon. Mr. Turne

objection could be returns asked for, not be brought do ence is now in pr QUESTIONS Mr. Williams as

commissioner of the government i tion for redress o red to in the peti him, condemning British Columbia Hon. Mr. Mart may be considered of the province. SCHOOL

The house then on the school land the chair. On taking up Kitchen asked w had any informa spect to the which the govern bring down. Hon. Mr. Turne

the amendments block system. there was any the mode of sell negative answer. then the objection side remained. Hon. Col. Bak Premier's remark block proposal, a amendment was

shores of lakes or where a lake or of land and cut of man was to be Mr. Kitchen sa mprove matters, speculator had to tler to take up a then the specula and take up the the government mi let the public kne sale, then let the

public competitio

ment would have the best price for Mr. Sword said he system propo best price for the well to talk of to the wild land these land warra out any but the l Sword was oppositely selling the public must be sold he o the system of to see the govern till the governme to be sold; until their own surveyo ies, as to the cha sale, and then pur tion. On the wh bill would benefi who could purch purpose of specu

imendment to th

first section to !

Mr. Hunter said

words: "Upon the at least ten memb not members of would have the

The Improved KNITTER

ment was not pos intervene between ernor and his re-Mr. Semlin wo provision there w oly or speculation the government i luding 100 tim nan controlling a rants could apply land in the provin Sword's amendm