

the extension of our boundaries on any previous occasion.

#### **Sir William Mulock Scored**

Still greater, Mr. Speaker, was my surprise to find the statement made in support of Sir Wilfrid Laurier by Sir William Mulock. Now, Mr. Speaker, during our interview Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Mr. Fitzpatrick, the minister of justice, were present, and while we were standing looking closely at a map on the wall, Sir William Mulock entered the room with Senator Choquette, walked over to where we were standing, shook hands with Mr. Campbell and myself, and apologized to Sir Wilfrid Laurier for not being able to remain to take part in the interview. Mr. Fitzpatrick jocularly remarked: "Mulock, you had better remain, as these gentlemen want to take all that territory away immediately north of the province of Ontario." Sir William Mulock simply smiled and retired from the room. Yet, notwithstanding this, he rose in his place in the house of commons and endeavored to make believe that during our interview he had taken strong grounds; in fact, that before any extension of our boundaries could be made the province of Ontario should be heard. It is no doubt within the knowledge of hon. members of the house that very shortly after this time Sir William Mulock was promoted by his leader, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, to one of the highest positions in his gift, that of chief justice. I say, according to the standard of the Liberal party, he is well qualified for the position.

#### **Criticizing Judges**

We are told by some individuals that we should be very careful to say nothing that will reflect on the judiciary of this country. I say the time has unfortunately passed for that condition of affairs when we see that the qualification for the judiciary of our country has to be considered simply on a par with other applications for positions in any service of the government, viz., that the first question to be considered in connection with such application is to what extent the applicant has served in the counsels of his party, such as the service, and of course, the special service, rendered by Sir William Mulock in this regard in coming so loyally to the assistance of his leader, and even going to the extent of making statements that are absolutely incorrect in order that he might maintain and strengthen Sir Wilfrid Laurier in the continuation of his quibbling, punishing and penalizing policy as against our little province of Manitoba. (Applause.)

#### **A Short Memory**

Sir Wilfrid Laurier showed still further evidence of his failing memory when he undertook to discuss my reference to some of his former statements in the province of Quebec, when up and down that province he had been putting himself on the back until he became round shouldered in describing to the people there the credit to which he was entitled for having effected such a fair and reasonable settlement of the Manitoba school question with Mr. Greenway and Mr. Sifton in the year 1897. Now, Mr. Speaker, I cannot do better than quote to you Sir Wilfrid's own words from Hansard, in this regard:

"The only thing I care for is that, whereas, under the act, 1890, they had not the privilege of teaching their own religion in the schools, by the concessions which have been made, whether they are concessions of new rights or a restoration of old rights, they will have the right hereafter of teaching their own religion in the province of Manitoba.

"Well the moment I found that the people of Manitoba were ready to make concessions which practically restored to the Catholics the right of teaching the French language and of teaching their own religion in the schools, I submitted to my fellow countrymen in the province of Quebec that it was far better to obtain those concessions by negotiation than to endeavor to obtain them by means of coercion.

"And I venture at this moment to say that there is not a man in the province of Quebec, there is not a man in this country, who, looking at the settlement unbiased and unprejudiced, will not come to the conclusion that it was a happy solution of a very difficult situation indeed."

Now, Mr. Speaker, I could understand to some extent at all events Sir Wilfrid Laurier's actions today providing the government of this country were guilty of failure on their part to carry out the law as provided for this province by Sir Wilfrid Laurier in 1897, and about which he was apparently then so proud. However, I am pleased to note that no charge of failure in this regard as against the government of this province has been made. On the contrary, Mr. Speaker, we are sometimes charged with being guilty of being too liberal in our interpretation and administration of this law. As for my own part let me say here and now that I have at all times endeavored to be a good friend to the Roman Catholic people of this province, and Mr. Speaker let me say more, and it is this that I hope I will ever remain as such. We