

NEWS FROM OTTAWA.

Liberal Obstruction to Remedial Bill Still Continues.

Gen. Gascoigne Upholds the Position of Col. Egan of 63rd, Halifax.

Col. Starke to Command the Blaisy Team-Chignecto Railway Project.

Ottawa, April 7.—There was an air of weariness over the house of commons this morning at the hour at which members generally put in their appearance for a day's work. Everything looked untidy and unkept. Members were reclining listlessly in their chairs listening in a half-sleepy manner to monotonous orators.

During the course of Mr. Bain's sermon three French members created a little diversion and awoke their slumbering colleagues by bursting into the chamber, one playing a mouth organ and two others keeping time with "rooters."

Sam Hughes noticing this, called the chairman's attention to the fact that a new leader of the opposition had been installed and wished him to state his policy.

Mr. Martin followed, speaking for less than half an hour, until Mr. Casey got his talking tacks oiled.

He was followed by Mr. Tyrwhitt, who made some interesting observations. For instance, he said that he was unalterably opposed to separate schools, and he believed that he thus echoed the prevailing sentiments of Ontario.

Mr. Campbell then took up the talking and added his quota to the programme of obstruction. A sample of his style may be gathered from one incident of the discussion.

"For instance," said the member for Kent, "we had a criminal code, which was taken from the house to the senate and was then left over till next session."

Mr. Wallace—"That's what we'll do with the bill."

He went on to say that the remedial bill was still more important and should be held over.

After an hour's talk from Mr. McMillan, Mr. Bain succeeded in sailing away smoothly for an hour or two until Commodore Walsh suddenly dawned on the scene, looking big, burly and now, having had both sleep and breakfast.

This led Mr. Martin to rise and solemnly remark: "I appeal from the ruling of the chair." (Great laughter followed.)

Mr. Mills—Mr. Welch interrupted twice and raised no point of order.

Mr. Welch—if you can't keep your side of the house in order we won't keep ours.

Mr. Mulock—suggest we should call it off and begin again. (Laughter.)

Mr. Wallace—I think the chairman should apologize to Mr. Welch. (Laughter.)

Mr. Welch—I would accept that. (Laughter.)

Mr. Bain continued with his sermon and accused Sir Charles Tupper of stirring up religious warfare with his feelings. He resumed his seat about nine o'clock.

W. F. MacLean then took the floor for the first time in committee and protested against the prolonged sitting, urging that the house should adjourn till the report of the Winnipeg conference was presented to parliament.

The discussion was continued by Messrs. McCarthy, McNeill, Charlton, Borden and Mills (Bothwell).

At 11 minutes to 6 Mr. Martin's amendment was disposed of.

Then Mr. Fremont's amendment providing that the clerical authorities be consulted in the matter of text books was put, when Mr. Larivière moved an amendment to leave the selection of text books with the Catholic board of education.

Incidents when lengthy sessions were held. He immensely tickled Hon. Mr. Haggart by recalling the time when the minister of railways and Sir Charles Tupper obstructed the house for forty-eight hours because of the (Richard) as finance minister would not agree to adjourn the house on St. Patrick's day to enable Sir Charles to address some gentlemen interested in St. Patrick. Cartwright proceeded to denounce the disgraceful orgies of the last all night sitting, when he remarked, "I verily believe led to the death of one member of this house within five days."

After a speech from Mr. McNeill, Mr. Weldon addressed the house for about an hour, protesting against lengthy sittings as injurious to the health of the members and the temper of parliament. He believed that all the troubles of the present position were due in a large measure to Sir Charles Tupper. He had an impulsive temperament, and when the position of minister of justice was offered to him he should have declined the post, as the portfolio he had previously held totally unfitted him to take it.

The discussion was continued at great length by Messrs. Charlton, Sproule and Mr. McMillan, who said nothing of special moment.

Shortly after three o'clock this afternoon Mr. Laurier rose. He said reluctance on the part of the members to sit after 2 o'clock in the morning was a reasonable one. Since that hour nothing had been done. He suggested that an agreement should be reached to sit say ten or twelve hours a day, the time being as much as the country could expect any man to remain in the chamber. As three o'clock had arrived he trusted Mr. Martin's amendment would be disposed of and the house get down to business.

Mr. Laurier's proposal was a reasonable and proper one, and personally he was prepared to concur in it. He would point out, however, that parliament existed in the country. Mr. Laurier knew the danger of the house getting out of committee. The palpable and constant obstruction which had taken place was calculated to convert the proceedings of parliament into a monstrous farce.

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separate schools would not press the amendment offered by Mr. ... The original clause left the range of choice sufficiently wide and the great object was to ensure the efficiency of the Manitoba Catholic schools.

Sir Hector Langevin it will be to amend the clause so as to provide that the books may be those in use in the Manitoba public schools or in the Ontario separate schools, or in the Catholic schools in Quebec.

Sir Charles Tupper said that with a view to expediting the bill the government would accept the suggestion, after the discussion had proceeded for some time on these lines Mr. Powell suggested that the clause be altered to read that the Catholic board of education be empowered to select all the books to be used in the schools, unless a book, map or globe other than the books on history, morals and religion shall be selected.

Mr. Powell's amendment carried, but the Eastern question was raised by Messrs. McCarthy and Wallace voting with Mr. Larivière against it.

Senator Desjardins, minister of militia, returned to the house this evening. In conversation with your correspondent he said that Major Gen. Gascoigne strongly upholds the position of Col. Egan of the 63rd battalion in his dispute with Capt. Dixon of the same corps.

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point of order to raise, namely, that the house was asking a terrible racket in one of the back benches by snoring.

The member was aroused. Mr. McNeill went on to talk against the bill, but he got into a personal argument with Mr. Coatsworth.

At this juncture Hon. Mr. Daly arose and pointed out that obstruction had begun just at the same hour the morning before maintained by Mr. McCarthy's force and assisted by Mr. liberals. There was a determination on the part of both not to allow the bill to proceed, and it was well the country should place the responsibility where it belonged.

Mr. Davies protested against the imputation of obstruction so far as it concerned the opposition. Mr. discussion entered a dignified protest against the proposal to introduce any such extraneous matter, and the chairman sustained the objection after hearing a further reading of the extract which Mr. Laurier had levanted. Mr. Devlin adding that he regretted it was not within his competence to protest against the whole speech.

Dr. McDonald finally admitted that the purport of his whole speech had been obstruction, in retaliation for the government's refusal to adjourn the house at a reasonable hour. He finished at 8 o'clock, laughing.

After speeches by Messrs. Davies, Sproule, Bain, McMullan and Innes, all obstructionists, the discussion was continued by Messrs. Bennett, Sutherland and Charlton, the latter leaning from his pocket Bible and pointing out certain lessons characteristic of their broad Christianity, which could be taught in the public schools.

Mr. Charlton willingly obliged Mr. Wallace amid loud laughter. This led to a dignified rebuke from Dr. Bergen, who indignantly protested against any man trying to talk on terms to hold them up to scorn. He severely rebuked Mr. Charlton.

Dr. Bergen—Well, if he is, (sneer) you get rid of him the better. (Great laughter.)

Then for the next half hour members spoke for and against Mr. Charlton's action, some condemning him, others maintaining that he was in order.

Mr. Charlton continued his reading of the first chapter of the Gospel of St. John, which he pronounced to be a child in the temple. He followed this practice until after three o'clock, when the house had been in session for more than eight hours.

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Mr. Laurier replied, speaking under the same excitement. He declared that he felt infinitely obliged to him for his exhibition of unseemly and impotent rage, as he had given before recess. He went on to compare the secretary of state to an extinct volcano "smoking smoke and mad."

Senator Cochrane said the contention of the English government that Canadian cattle were affected by pleuro-pneumonia was ridiculous. The schedule was not an unmitigated evil, as Canadians could now feed their cattle at home.

Senator Ferguson thought the debate exceedingly ill timed in view of the fact that a bill to exclude Canadian cattle from the English market was now before the British parliament.

Senator Ferguson, P. E. Island, pointed out the utter fallacy of the contention that pleuro-pneumonia existed in Canada was shown by the fact that since the imposition of the schedule one hundred thousand cattle had been examined and the lungs of over five thousand had been dealt with by experts and not a single case of disease discovered.

Senator Angers went into the whole question of precautions taken by the government and their efforts to convince the imperial government that they were wrong in assuming that disease existed among cattle in Canada to show that the action of the British board of agriculture was not warranted by the facts.

Senator Boulton withdrew his motion and the matter dropped.

Col. Stark of Montreal and Major Bruce of Toronto were today appointed respectively commander and adjutant of this year's Blaisy team.

Another seat is now vacant in the house by the appointment of Mr. Mason, M. P. of North Grey, as senior county judge of Huron county.

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Mr. Richard Cartwright read the extract which he had levanted in 1884, and to the amusement of the conservatives the quotation resulted in his own discomfiture.

Sir Charles added that upon that occasion he was doing what always secured him the enmity of the opposition, namely, saying a good word for his country. In conclusion, he would remind his hon. friends opposite that he had never yet predicted a party victory at the polls that had not been fulfilled, and he predicted a triumph for the conservatives at the next elections. (Cheers.)

Sir Richard Cartwright retorted upon Sir Charles by reading an article from the Toronto Mail of 1891, denouncing the then high commissioner. He also quoted from Hansard to prove that Sir Charles had prophesied the cost of the C. E. R. would be recouped to the country by sales of public lands.

In conclusion, he held that these committee meetings are of no use in furthering business, while it made parliament a public scandal.

Sir Charles Tupper put it to the last speaker if it was honest or honorable to quote the utterances of the Toronto Mail of 1891 as those of a paper now the organ of the government. The Mail at that time, he said, was the bitterest opponent the government had, and he had himself earned its public enmity by denouncing upon the public platform the anti-Catholic course of that paper.

Dr. Weldon protested against the word "conspiracy," which he took to be used by Sir Charles Tupper towards himself and others who had temporarily broken with the government.

Sir Charles explained that the term had been applied to Mr. McCarthy as allied with the liberals in a policy of obstruction.

Dr. Weldon complained of the miscellaneous character of the legislation being attempted in connection with this bill.

"What sort of an educational structure shall we have?" he asked. "Will it be Gothic, Doric, Byzantine, or Roman?"

Sir Charles Tupper—"Roman," of course. (Laughter.)

NEW BOOKS.

Chronicle of Canada.

A Fair of Treatises on Authors.

POLITICAL APPOINTMENTS.

Shortly before the publication of the provincial appointments in Canada. The period from 1841 to 1884, and the dates of the retirements of all mental and parliamentary members of the House of Commons, including a record of the important positions.

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