TORY ATTEMPT TO GAG LIBERALS FAILS

ORDER FOR CLOSURE STARTS A LIVELY FIGHT

Speaker Sproule Declares the Debate Closed Amid Wild Protests of Liberals

Dr. Pugsley Called from His Bed to Lead the Opposition in Their Battle for Freedom of Speech and British Fair Play, and He Won the Day—Dr. Clark "Named" and Others Threatened—Near Midnight Premier Borden Confessed Defeat and Moved Adjournment Amid Wild Opposition Cheering.

Ottawa, March 14—It is understood that Premier Borden is beginning to feel that an election is the proper solution of the present parliamentary difference. However, Hon. Robert Rogers is against an appeal to the people. The premier is willing to take a chance, while the minister of public works fears a fall. Each has a clique of ministers and members behind him, and there seems to be a breach developing between the two factions.

Notice to change the rules of the house by the introduction of closure is expected tomorrow or Monday. There is some doubt of the government being able to get closure through and it is understood that Premier Borden does not relish the passage of closure, for the purpose of putting his naval proposals through the house.

There is no precedent for dealing with a big issue and it seems likely that should the naval bill be forced through the house in this way the Liberal majority in the senate would feel justified in throwing the bill out. If the naval bill passed the house without closure the senate would likely give its sanction to the passage.

In the meantime the blockade continues and the government is running out of money and in a few days parliament will not have any money with which to pay itself. The failure to vote money will have as one of its effects the cutting off of indemnity payments to members of the house and the senate, as well as to the staffs of the two chambers.

A Lively Row.

The most exciting row which has occurred over the naval question occurred today when Dr. Pugsley stated that Hon. Thomas Crothers, minister of labor, was intoxicated in the chamber the morning before, when he referred to Dr. Pugsley, who was absent, as "Slippery Bill."

At the conclusion of a short speech by E. B. Devlin, of Wright, Hon. Dr. Pugsley rose and quoting from yesterday's proceedings from Hansard the discussion which occurred during the course of Hon. George P. Graham's speech. Mr. Graham had advanced the claim that a shipyard had been established at Fore River (Mass.) at a cost of $4,000,000. According to the Hansard, the minister of labor had interjected the remark: "Who says so—Slippery Bill?"

Mr. Pugsley quoted the incident from Hansard and said that it had always been his custom in debate to treat other members of the house with respect. He said he desired to ask the minister of labor if he had made the statement attributed to him.

Mr. Crothers said that the incident was not quite correctly reported in Hansard. Attention had been drawn to the remark at the time, and Mr. Lalor, who was in the chair, had said that it did not refer to anyone in particular. He added that he could not undertake to describe everything which had happened at the time.

A Hot Exchange.

Mr. Pugsley said he had been informed that there were other reasons why the incident had occurred and that they had to do with the condition the minister of labor was in at the time. He had been told that from all appearances the honorable gentleman was at the time intoxicated.

"I must insist upon him retracting that statement," said Mr. Crothers with heat.

"I will retract when the hon. gentleman does. It would be more manly for the minister of labor to withdraw the words he applied to me before asking me to retract," said Dr. Pugsley.

A scene of confusion, such as has seldom occurred in the house followed. There were loud cries of "order" and in a moment Chairman Armstrong, Mr. Pugsley and A. C. Boyce were all on their feet endeavoring to speak.

Finally Mr. Armstrong exclaimed: "Will you both sit down," and the two belligerent members resumed their seats.

Then Mr. Armstrong said that he had understood Mr. Pugsley to say that he had withdrawn his remarks about the minister of labor.

"Not yet," said Mr. Pugsley.

Then the ex-minister of public works should be given an opportunity to make an explanation, ruled the chairman.

Mr. Pugsley, in the midst of much confusion, went on to say that he had accepted the statement of the minister that he was not intoxicated when the incident of the previous day occurred. Apparently the hon. gentleman, who had said that he was, had drawn a wrong conclusion from his conduct on that occasion. Sometimes the actions of members in the house are such that a wrong impression is given, said Dr. Pugsley, sarcastically. Mr. Pugsley criticized the minister of labor for "allowing the dastardly imputation to remain on the records."

Mr. Pugsley suggested that the minister of labor should state that the expression he used did not apply to a member of parliament.

Crothers Squirms.

"If the hon. gentleman thinks the remark does no apply to any one but himself I will withdraw," said Mr. Crothers.

"That is not a withdrawal," retorted Mr. Pugsley.

Mr. Crothers remarked that the member for St. John had overlooked the fact that his remark in the house was made only in a general way.

Mr. Boyce, of Algoma, and Meighen, of Manitoba, pressed for a withdrawal, so Dr. Pugsley said: "Since the minister of labor says he was not intoxicated, I will say that my description only applies to his language. Beyond that I do not care to withdraw."

Chairman Armstrong ruled that the explanation made by Mr. Pugsley was satisfactory and ordered Mr. MacKenzie to proceed with his speech. Mr. Meighen, however, insisted on holding the floor and announced his intention of appealing from the ruling of the chair. Then there was more confusion. Mr. Boyce got the floor and accused the Liberals of turning parliament into a bear garden.

"You are the bear," shouted one of the opposition members.

For the next few minutes the argument was confined largely to Chairman Armstrong and Mr. Meighen, who amidst a great uproar differed as to whether the withdrawal of the ex-minister of public works had been complete.

When Dr. Pugsley rose again he was greeted with Liberal cheers. Then Premier Borden walked into the chamber and was received with a salvo of applause from the ministerial benches. Mr. Pugsley said he was glad to see the prime minister because it would insure a proper observance of the rules of the house.

After some more discussion Mr. Armstrong expressed the view that it would probably be better for Dr. Pugsley to definitely withdraw the words he had used. The ex-minister said he would do so, but added: "I would say, however, that if the language used by the minister of labor was used anywhere else but in this parliament I would describe it as dastardly and ungentlemanly."

Tories Threaten the Gag.

Gagging was inaugurated by the government tonight. Hon. Robert Rogers took charge of the operations. Premier Borden dropped into second place and humbly followed the new leader of the house.

The plan has been in preparation for several days. It is significant that the two most important performers are from Manitoba. They are Hon. Robert Rogers and J. A. M. Aiken, the Conservative member for Brandon.

The minister of public works rose when Hon. Charles Marcil concluded his telling arraignment of the Borden naval policy of contribution, said: "If progress with this bill cannot be made, honorable members opposite cannot complain," said he, "if from thistime forward the rule of debate is strictly adhered to, and if the present rules are not sufficient to make progress it will be the duty of the government to introduce such rules as will enable progress to be made. We have set about the passing of this bill, and we are going to do it."

With this last threat "Hon. Bob" sat down. He prefaced his announcement with several high-sounding sentences about "recognizing our duty to the dominon and the empire," and finished with his declaration of coming closure.

Hon. Frank Oliver, who was leading the Liberal relay on duty at the time, at once rose amid prolonged Liberal cheering, while the premier came into the chamber and took his seat, eliciting a counter demonstration from the Conservatives.

Oliver's Hot Shot.

"Liberalism," said Mr. Oliver, speaking slowly and emphatically, "is fully aware of the importance of the announcement which the minister has just made to parliament. Liberalism is struck with the significant fact that it is the minister of public works and not the prime minister who makes this announcement. For so important an announcement of government policy it is a unique spectacle in parliamentary government to have it proceed not from the prime minister but from the minister of public works, it will strike the Canadian people with some significance.

"It is no concern of ours on this side of the house," continued Mr. Oliver, "who leads this government—whether it be the prime minister or the minister of public works. We are not concerned with the government's leadership, we are concerned—concerned deeply as Canadians and as British subjects—with its measures.

"May I say, on the part of Canadian Liberalism," proceeded the Edmonton Liberal, "that we have a full appreciation of the consideration which the minister has stated has been shown by the government to the opposition in this matter. We are free British subjects elected representatives of the Canadian people, and it is not only our right but our duty, as we earnestly conceive it, to discharge our responsibility to the Canadian people to the best of our conviction. We do not take our right at the hands of the government of the day, we recognize our responsibility only to the people of Canada whom we seek to serve."

Premier Borden had come in while Mr. Rogers was speaking. He swung immediately into second place behind the Manitoba master and proceeded to give effect to the dictum which Mr. Rogers had laid down. He raised the point of order that Mr. Oliver was discussing the principle of the bill, which had been settled upon the second reading and therefore could not be discussed in committee.

J. A. M. Aikens, who had been put in the chair, and who is also from Manitoba, immediately ruled in favor of Premier Borden.

Hon. Mr. Oliver promptly appealed.

A call was sent to Speaker Sproule, and in twenty minutes he had put his clothes on and took the chair.

Chairman Aikens reported to him that Mr. Oliver had declared the vote of $35,000,000 for three dreadnoughts was not a gift or a loan but was a pawn in the political game which was being played in Britain and Canada. To this Premier Borden had raised the point of order that it involved the principle which had been settled on the second reading and could not therefore be discussed in committee.

Speaker Sproule read the report to the house with considerable difficulty as the hand writing was not very clear.

Dr. Pugsley rose to a point of order.

Speaker Sproule declared Dr. Pugsley out of order but the member for St. John persisted, while the government benches roared: "Sit down." Dr. Pugsley said he desired to move a point of order.

Speaker Sproule—"A second point of order cannot be raised while a point of order is being decided."

Dr. Pugsley—"My point of order is that you are not in order," and the rest of Dr. Pugsley's remarks were drowned in cries of "Sit down," while Speaker Sproule motioned for Dr. Pugsley to take his seat.

A. K. MacLean—"Would the speaker kindly read the report again. To some of us it was not altogether clear."

Speaker Sproule did so.

George Boivin, of Shefford—At the request of some of my confrerers who are not very familiar with the English language I would ask that the report be read in French.

Deputy Speaker Blondin walked to the table and with some difficulty and hesitation translated the report into French.

Hon. Frank Oliver—"I object to the form of the motion."

No attention was paid to Mr. Oliver's protest.

Speaker Sproule—The question is shall the ruling be confirmed.

The government shouted "Yes," and the Liberals shouted "Nay."

The yeas and nays were called for and the ruling was sustained by a vote of 68 to 28.

The division was a straight party one, all the Nationalists voting with the government.

Ottawa, March 16—In an attempt to force the money clause of the naval bill through the house Saturday night, closure was applied. It produced scenes and proceedings without parallel in the Canadian parliament.

For an hour the house rang with the tumult of 130 strong men shaken with passion. More than once it looked as if the excitement would break into physical violence.

A point of order was being discussed, and Speaker Sproule took the chair, while the house was in committee, and declared that the debate should be closed, and directed Mr. Robidoux, who was acting chairman of the committee, should give his ruling.

Men were on their feet desiring to speak, and in Rule 21 are the words:

"It is the duty of Mr. Speaker to see that every member wishing to speak has opportunity to do so."

That is the rule when the speaker is in the chair, and the mace is on the table, and then each member has the right to speak once. Another rule states that "the rules of the house shall be observed in committee of the whole so far as may be applicable, except the rules as to seconding of motions and limiting the number of times of speaking."

The house was in committee Saturday night. It had been in committee sitting night and day for two weeks. On Monday, March 3, Hon. Robert Rogers told the opposition that the committee would sit until Clause 2 of the naval bill passed. The government certainly attempted to make good the threat, for on Saturday night, when the premier moved the house out of committee—and there admitted that the government had been beaten—the calise had not been passed, though it had been discussed by the Liberals continuously for 234 hours.

"Named" Dr. Clark.

Saturday night, for the first time since the dominon was formed, a member was named in parliament, another member defied, and another refused to obey an order from the chair. The member named was Dr. Clarke, of Red Reer, a Britisher, and the most brilliant orator of the house. The authorities shrank from the next step, which would have been to expel him.

The man who defied the chair was Martin, of Regina. He was ordered to retract his declaration that closure had been applied. Mr. Martin replied that the speaker and every member present knew that there had been closure and he could not honestly retract.

Premier Borden interfered and restored peace in each case, after he had seen that the Liberals were not to be coerced and that very one of them would have to be removed from the chamber before they would consent to being walked over in defiance of the rules, and inviolation of their rights.

When Speaker Sproule named Dr. Clarke he and the government were staggered when the opposition stood up to the last man and shouted: "Name us all."

The close of the sitting saw the government beaten and crestfallen and the Liberals shouting in triumph for Hon. Dr. Pugsley, who led the fight; for Sir Wilfrid Laurier, at home ill; for Dr. Clarke, and for Mr. Martin.

The scene in the chamber at the close was most unusual. The Liberals swarmed down in a body to the centre as the speaker followed the mace out, and congratulated the men who had led them in repelling the attack upon liberty of speech. Every man on the Liberal side shook hands with Dr. Pugsley, who, it is conceded, saved the day for the opposition. When the Manitoba gang at 11 o'clock Friday night clapped the lid upon discussion, ruled out of order the amendments of Judge MacKenzie and Sir Wilfrid Laurier, which had been under discussion for two weeks, and ruled that the principles underlying the bill could not be discussed, Dr. Pugsley had finished his watch and gone home. The new rulings made it necessary to take up technicalities to hold off the vote.

Dr. Pugsley Saved the Day.

As Dr. Pugsley is the most experienced parliamentarian, and probably the ablest lawyer in the house, he was sent for. He got out of bed and in fifteen minutes was in the chamber. To his resource and capacity is chiefly due the Liberal success. Until midnight Saturday he was hardly out of the chamber. He raised point after point for debate, and was ably seconded in the discussion of these by F. B. Carvell and Hon. H. R. Emmerson.

The attack for the government was carried on by R. B Bennett, Calgary; J. A. M. Aiken, Brandon, and Arthur Meighen, Portage la Prairie, acting under the direction of Hon. Robert Rogers. It was the west against New Brunswick, most of the time.

When Chairman Robidoux, of Kent (N. B.), attempted to overlook speakers and close the debate, Dr. Pugsley stepped to the table and dared him to override the rules in such a fashion. So determined was Dr. Pugsley that Mr. Robidoux faltered and recognized the speakers who were challenging his attempt. This was repeated a second time until Speaker Sproule had to take the chair and instruct Mr. Robidoux to close the debate.

The trouble came upon a point of order by Dr. Pugsley that Chairman Robidoux had been improperly appointed. He was given the seat at the table by Mr. Blain, who was named by the speaker to preside. Dr. Pugsley held that only the speaker could appoint Mr. Robidoux. The point of order had been discussed for several hours and at 10 o'clock in the evening Mr. Robidoux showed a disposition not to see members who desired to speak, and an inclination to give his ruling without further debate. The Liberals began shouting "Gag" and "Recognize speakers" and the Conservatives shouted, "Give your ruling."

Mr. Robidoux endeavored to make his ruling, while Mr. Carvell was still upon his feet speaking to the question. Several Liberals jumped instantly to their feet and Hon. Dr. Pugsley stepped firmly out on to the centre floor of the chamber. "This cannot be done," said he, while the Liberals cheered and the Conservatives shouted, "Put him out," "Down with him," "Shut him up" and other kindred expressions.

"Honorable members have been limited in debate to a degree never attempted before in this parliament," said Dr. Pugsley. "It is an unprecedented condition, solely unjustifiable under the rules of this house, to ignore a member who is speaking to the question and whose arguments are revelant, parliamentary and altogether justifiable."

Premier Borden said he could not see any reason for prolonging the discussion.

Mr. Carvell continued speaking and demanded the attention of the chair. Mr. Robidoux turned his back.

"This is contrary to all tenets of British fair play," declared Mr. Emmerson.

The Gag Tried.

Chairman Robidoux tried to declare the resolution carried but was drowned in cries of "Free speech," "This is Canada," by Liberals and "Rule, Rule" by the government. Speaker Sproule mounted the dias in the midst of a deafening tumult with half the members standing.

The speaker himself was trembling. "I regret to say that this is not creditable to this house," he declared: "I instruct the chairman to put the motion and so sure as anyone rises to prevent it or violate orders I shall name him," said he, shaking a warning finger at the Liberal side.

Every Liberal in the chamber was instantly on his feet again. "Name us all," came from every throat.

Dr. Pugsley again stepped in front of his desk, while the Liberals broke into enthusiastic cheering. "Do I understand you to rule, Mr. Speaker," said Dr. Pugsley, "that you permit no discussion upon this question which is a matter of grave concern to more than half of the people of Canada?"

"I have instructed the chairman to put the question," replied the speaker.

"Under what rule is it possible for you to do so?" questioned Dr. Pugsley.

"Order, order," demanded the speaker, while the Conservatives shouted "Name him," "Put him out," "Throw him out."

"Rebels," shouted the Conservatives across the floor.

Mr. Knowles, of Moose Jaw, furiously demanded that the speaker deal with the government members who had flung the word "rebels" across the floor.

Borden Deaf to Tory Insults.

Premier Borden said he had not heard it.

"I heard it," exclaimed Dr. Michael Clark, rising, "and, Mr. Speaker, I submit that the time has come when you must take cognizance of —"

But the Red Deer man got no further. A chorus of Conservative yells drowned him out.

"I request the chairman to rule that the debate is closed," declared Speaker Sproule.

Mr. Verville, the Labor member, rose in protest. "On behalf of those whom I represent and whose views I propose to present to this parliament, I protest against any such conduct on the part of the chair," he said.

"Sit down," ordered the speaker.

Mr. Verville remained standing. "I resent any such attempt to gag orderly and representative members of this house," the Labor man persisted firmly. "For myself I propose to exercise the British right of freedom of speech for those I represent and will not stand for unconstitutional gag methods contrary to the rules of the Canadian parliament at the behest of the Rogers machine or anyone else."

The speaker and Chairman Robidoux both turned their backs on the Labor man.

Dr. Michael Clark, the British-born imperialist from Red Deer, rose quietly to support the Labor man.

"With due respect to your honor," began Dr. Clark, while the Conservatives attempted to howl him down. Dr. Clark raised his powerful voice, which came like a trumpet over the uproar on the government benches.

"I call the attention of your honor to the rules of this house," continued Dr. Clark, his voice ringing over the tumult.

"Sit down," ordered the speaker, but Dr. Clark continued: "There is only one place in this house where the chair is being defied," pointing to the now madly uproarious government benches. "I desire to call your honor's attention to the fact that parliament has before it a great constitutional problem. It is necessary that honorable gentlemen observe close adherence to the rules of this house. I desire to ask your honor under what rule you have assumed the chair?"

"Dr. Michael Clark, I name you," exclaimed the speaker, his voice trembling and his hand extended toward the member for Red Deer, shaking violently, "for absolute and flagrant violation of the rules of the house."

Clark Stood His Ground.

Dr. Clark remained standing and proceeded firmly with his remarks, while the Liberals cheered him tumultuously. "I have all respect for the dignity of the position your honor occupies," he continued, "but I do not hesitate to continue to call your attention to the rules of this parliament, and to ask under them the justification for the course being pursued."

The Liberals rose in a body, cheering for Dr. Clark.

"I am in the hands of the house," declared the speaker, after asserting his right to "name" a member. "I am in the hands of the house to vindicate my action," he repeated, but still hesitated to put a motion to expel Dr. Clark.

"Throw him out," shouted the Conservatives, amid the wildest uproar.

"And throw out every Britisher in Canada with him," put in Mr. Nesbitt.

"This is gag rule in defiance of the rules of parliament," put in Dr. Pugsley in the momentary lull. "I would suggest to the government in all sincerity and to the head of the government that he realize where this kind of thing is taking him."

"With due respect to your honor," continued Dr. Clark, "I again ask under what authority you took the chair of this house and proceeded as you have done?"

Speaker Sproule stated that he took the chair under the rule which permitted the speaker to do so when an unusual disturbance arose.

"Read the rule," exclaimed several Liberal members.

Speaker Sproule read a rule of the British house, and declared the Canadian house had the same rule.

A Tense Situation.

The situation had become very awkward. Liberals were cheering Dr. Clark and Mr. Verville, and it became apparent that if Dr. Clark were taken out there would be trouble which would not end until every man had been hauled out.

Premier Borden rose and said he was very sorry that members on the other side of the house had seen fit to give such a painful exhibition.

"It is upon the other side of the house, and not this side," observed Dr. Pugsley.

"I trust," said the premier, "that my honorable friend from Red Deer, who is not only a very sane and reasonable member of this house, but is also in all respects a gentleman, would make some amends. An apology to the chair, under the circumstances, will be the best way," he said.

"What for" asked several Liberals.

Dr. Pugsley thought the house had best adjourn.

Premier Borden said he hoped that his friend from Red Deer would be good enough to take into his serious consideration the suggestion he had made. He felt sure that the difficulty was caused by the temporary excitement under which the house labored.

Dr. Clark said he was not aware what his offence was when he asked the speaker for directions as to what rule the latter was proceeding under.

"That rule has not yet been read to me," proceeded Dr. Clark. "If I had said a word calculated to be offensive to anyone, I should be the first to withdraw it."

Premier Borden suggested that the reason that Dr. Clark was "named" by the speaker was that he was standing when the speaker was standing and calling for order. He hoped the speaker would see fit to withdraw what had been done in the way of "naming" the honorable member and that the incident would be regarded as closed.

Speaker Gives Way.

Speaker Sproule said he had been asked by the member for Red Deer to read the clause under which he acted. It was the English rule which was similar to that of the Canadian house. The rule was clear that when the speaker rose it was the duty of members to sit down. He was, however, glad to accept the explanation given by Dr. Clark.

After division had been taken approving the ruling of the chair by a straight party vote of 82 to 51, the Nationalists all voting with the government, Mr. Verville proceeded with his speech.

There was peace for half an hour, and then trouble broke out in a fresh place.

Mr. Martin, of Regina, who followed after Dr. Neely, Mr. Turriff and Hon. Dr. Beland had spoken, was interrupted by cries of "carried" and "shut up" from the Conservative benches.

"I do not intend to allow threats of Conservative members in this house to deter me from discussing this great constitutional issue," he said. "If these gentlemen propose to shut off discussion in Canada's parliament, why don't they apply their closure in straightforward British fashion. We have had the insule 'rebel' hurled across the floor at us tonight. I want to tell these gentlemen that the Conservative party has no monopoly on loyalty. Sixty years ago the only rebels in this country were Tories. The men who burned the parliament buildings at Montreal in 1847 were the antecedents of the men who acted as honorable members opposite are acting today. So, instead of having the courage of their convictions and proceedings in British fashion to do what they would fain do, they seek to stifle free speech by inaugurating a limited and unconstitutional form of closure—"

Chairman Richard Blain, who had succeeded Mr. Robidoux, called Mr. Martin to order. He must withdraw the word closure, said the chairman.

Another Clinch.

"I am willing to withdraw anything I have said, provided the ruling of the chair is consistent with common sense," replied Mr. Martin. "But I refuse to withdraw my statement that a form of closure has been introduced into this house during the past twenty hours, because that statement is quite parliamentary and because it is absolutely true."

"Does the honorable member refuse to withdraw?" asked Chairman Blain.

Hon. Dr. Pugsley said it was time the house learned that it was not against the rules to state the absolute truth. What was meant by closure? It was the shutting off of discussion. Already both the speaker and the chairman had insisted on putting the question without debate.

"My statement was in no way offensive or untruthful," continued Mr. Martin. "I say more that there has been a deliberate attempt to gag British free speech in this house."

"The member must withdraw the word 'closure,'" persisted Chairman Blain.

"It is absolutely true," said Mr. Martin. "I refuse to withdraw it, and I demand the right to continue my discussion. The statement I made is perfectly parliamentary; it is absolutely true, and I refuse to withdraw it," Mr. Martin repeated.

"Put him out," shouted the Conservatives.

"Try it," exclaimed Mr. Turriff, amid a roar of Liberal cheers.

"More Rogers' methods," commented Hon. Thomas McNutt.

"If the hon. member does not withdraw I shall report him to the speaker," declared Chairman Blain.

Speaker Sproule was called to the chair and Chairman Blain reported that Mr. Marin had used the expression "certain form of closure" as applied to the proceedings of the house and had refused to withdraw it.

Speaker Sproule stated that it was his duty to ask the hon. member to withdraw the statement.

Mr. Martin said he used the word "closure" as applied to proceedings at least twice attempted in the house during the present sitting. "I stand by my statement absolutely, no matter who says otherwise," he proceeded. "I have been in steady attendance myself. I know the facts. My statement is parliamentary; I know it to be true, and I stand absolutely by it." (Liberal cheers and Conservative hoots).

Speaker Sproule called for order from the government benches. "I trust," said he, "the honorable member will revise his decision or I shall be obliged to do something I shall regret to do and name him for acting in contempt of the chair with whose ruling I have nothing to do."

Mr Martin said he regretted to appear to lack respect for the chair. He had every respect for the office and position, "but," he added, "I must stand by the absolute truth of what I stated. I decline to withdraw."

Borden Helps Speaker Out of Hole.

Speaker Sproule hesitated. The whole house seemed to realize the mistake of Chairman Blain, and what it was about to mean. Once more Premier Borden sought to save the situation. He asked if Mr. Graham had anything to suggest.

Hon. Mr. Graham shook his head, and the Liberals broke into cheering again.

"I would suggest," repeated Premier Borden, "that with the consent of the house the honorable gentleman who is now leading the opposition should make any suggestion he deems wise in the circumstances."

"The difficulty lies in this fact," said Mr. Graham. "In this committee rules have been rigidly applied against members on this side of the house, applications never brought into play before. So the hon. member for Regina believes himself justified, as we believe him justified, in his declaration that closure in form has been applied today. If I were chairman I would not have taken any exception to a statement of fact, which was not disrespectful, not offensive or displeasing and as what the member has said was true, it seems to me the chairman took too strong a view."

Premier Borden sought a way out. In view of the explanation of the remark by the hon. member for South Renfrew, he said, and the assurance by the member for Regina that it was not meant to be disrespectful, he thought the matter better drop.

"I said that before," observed Mr. Martin.

"Yes, I think so," commented Mr. Borden, amid Liberal laughter and cheers, "the member had no desire to be offensive?"

"Certainly not. I made a statement of fact," replied Mr. Martin. Whereupon the speaker left the chair, and Mr. Blain, who was now greeted by laughter, resumed the chairmanship of the committee. When Mr. Martin rose to continue his speech he was greeted by several moments of Liberal cheering.

Mr. Carvell thought the premier would be convinced by now where the situation was drifting. With the situation as it was, and conviction strong there was no possibility of progress. He suggested to the premier the adviseability of having the committee rise and adjourning the house.

Borden Relieved.

Premier Borden was apparently relieved. He asked how Mr. Graham viewed it, whereupon the latter emphasized Mr. Carvell's suggestion. Whereupon the premier moved for adjournment. In so doing he stated: "We do not desire to depart from constitutional traditions, or take any steps beyond what may be necessary. Hon. members opposite have declared they will force us to disolve this parliament and go to the country. If it were possible to do that this session, it would be possible to do it next session and the one following.

"While the minority has rights, the majority also had rights. It is our duty to listen to every reasonable argument, but even in so important a matter as this, steps must not be taken by any political party in Canada to reduce government to a farce. Honorable gentlemen may be dominated by a sincere desire to impress on the house that there are two sides to the question. Perhaps we do not see it as they see it, but the king's government must be carried on and supplies voted."

"They have been only once asked for," said Mr. MacDonald, "and they were granted."

Hon. Geo. P. Graham said there were undoubtedly two sides to this question involved in the bill before the house. The minority had strong convictions in the matter, and felt that they had not been treated in a manner becoming the dignity of the majority. He recalled the fact that after less than three hours of discussion on the calause appropriating the $35,000,000, they had been confronted at 2 o'clock in the morning with a government ultimatum that they must pass the clause before they could adjourn. He asked Mr. Borden if, when he had been leader of the opposition he was ever treated in that way.

"We have been forced to continue our protest for two weeks with no rising of the house either to permit members to eat or sleep. We are told that we voted for this appropriation in approving our Canadian naval policy. We approved it only with an amendment which altered its meaning. If the government so modifies it now we will pass the measure at once before we go home. The premier has said that the majority must rule. He must not forget that the minority also has rights. The minority is not unreasonable when it receives reasonable treatment. We are dealing with what we believe is a great constitutional issue, vital to Canada and vital to the empire. I say in all kindness we believe we have certain constitutional rights and we propose to exercise them."

Mr. Graham approved of the premier's decision to adjourn. "We will probably be in as good fighting trim and better humor on Monday."

The house adjourned about twenty-five minutes to midnight.

TRAGIC DEATH OF KING'S CO. MAN

Irvine C. Thorne, of Mannhurst, Run Over by His Frightened Team and Sled.

Corn Hill, N. B., March 13—One of the most shocking accidents occurred at Mannhurst yesterday, when the life of Irvine C. Thorne was crushed out almost instantly. He had hitched a pair of colts to a sled, came to Fred. F. Marr's mill here, for a grist and returned home. When unhitching his colts the dog frightened them. They knocked Mr. Thorne down and the sled passed over his chest and neck. He never regained consciousness.

Mr. Thorne was 28 years of age. He is survived by his aged father, also a sorrowing wife, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. McEwen of Lower Ridge, and three small children; also one brother William and two sisters, Mrs. Cameron Dunfield, and Miss Beatrice at home, besides a large circle of relatives and friends. They have the sympathy of many in their sad bereavement.

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How would YOU, reader, like to be strong, vigorous, vital and manly once more, without an ache, pain or weakness? If you really seek and want this new vigor, this rugged manly strength, then please call at my office or write today and get my free book that you may know the whole wonderful story of this great, drugless, self-treatment, this marvellous little VITALIZER of my invention, which you wear comfortably on your body, and which sends its steady, gentle, silent supply of FORCE into your nerves, blood and organism while you sleep.

Real manhood with a perfect manly strength is not only nature's own gift, but, according to my belief, may easily be within the reach of practically any man. Of course, we all know that it is the husky, vigorous, vital fellow who attracks both women and men to him, and it is he, also, who is ever sought out and who achieves the really big things of life. Sturdy, vital manhood is, without doubt the one great, silent universal power which fascinates us all, no matter how we may argue to the contrary. Therefore, reader, I care not what may be your age, nationality or creed; whether you are married or single; whether you are a bank president or work on the farm or in the shop; nor do I care how unstrung or nervous you may feel, or what past acts may have left you debilitated and enervated. I say to you in all seriousness, if I can show you an easy, drugless way by which you may treat yourself with the object of bringing back full vigor to your organism, then I will show you the road to new hope and new manhood. A man may be small in stature, yet as strong and attractive as a giant, or he may be big in stature yet unstrung, nervous and unmanly. It is all a question of your own vigorous strength. Therefore, let me suggest that you call or write at once, then, after reading my book, if you decide you want to try out my little vitalizer in your own case, and will write to me saying so, I will reply to your letter and guarantee to make an easy proposition which should enable you to have one of the vitalizers at once. At all events, you need the knowledge that my little book contains, whether you ever get a vitalizer or not, so please call or fill in and send the coupon.

NOTE.—With special attachments my VITALIZER is used by women as well as men for rheumatism, kidney, liver, stomach, bladder disorders, nervousness and general ill health.

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I publish a little illustrated pocket compendium in booklet form, as mentioned above, which is meant to guide both single and married men along the road of Vigorous Health and Moral Rectitude, so they may be as vigorous and strong as the best, and may live to a ripe, healthy old age. There is a lot in this little compendium which every young or elderly man should know and can refer to from time to time with great profit to his own physical health. The booklet in one part fully describes my new VITALIZER, the great drugless self-treatment. If it is not convenient or if you are too far away to call, please write for this booklet today. It will come to you in plain, sealed envelope by return mail. Please use copon. Office hours, 9 to 6; Sundays, 10 to 1.

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