

no religion whatever taught in the public schools of Ontario. A child of any denomination can go to any of these schools and he will never hear of religion, but I am told that in the province of Quebec the public school is practically a French school, where the French language is taught and where the English language, in many instances, is not taught at all. I am told that the Irish Roman Catholic of Quebec is worse off than the Protestant, because he has to send his children to a French school, and these children have to learn French or they will not learn anything. When hon. gentlemen opposite from Quebec, talk about toleration, they are not as tolerant as they would have us believe. I want to deal out justice to all classes of the people in this country. I do not like these religious questions in public affairs. I am sorry to see them introduced, and I am sorry from the bottom of my heart that the right hon. Prime Minister of this country has seen fit to throw this question into the political arena in order that he may upset the people of this country and create strife, when the question should be settled by the provinces of the west themselves. The hon. Minister of Finance, in his speech, told us of the schools of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. He told us that they had schools down there where the sisters of the church taught in their garb during the day; he told us that when the right hon. Prime Minister was there he said: Why, this is a separate school, and that the answer was: No; this is a Nova Scotia school, not a separate school. Now, we have before us the tolerance of the people of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. In the province of Ontario, although we have a separate school system, we have enlarged upon that system, and we have given the Roman Catholic minority more than was given them in the original Act. Now, I say, in conclusion, that with the history of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Ontario before us, we have evidence that the people, if left to themselves, will be kind and generous to the minority, will treat them as they should be treated, and accord to them all the tolerance that is due. With these examples before us, I say that we should have some faith in the two provinces of the west, Alberta and Saskatchewan; and we should trust them as Nova Scotia and New Brunswick have been trusted, and I have confidence that these great provinces of the west will deal leniently and liberally with the minority. When I vote in favour of the amendment of my hon. friend the leader of the opposition (Mr. R. L. Borden), I am not voting against separate schools, and I want that distinctly understood. I am voting for provincial rights. I am voting that this question be left to the provinces themselves. I am voting for that, because I have faith that these provinces will deal out justice and equity to the Roman Catholic minority, both now and in the future, and

Mr. LALOR.

for that reason I shall support the amendment of my hon. friend the leader of the opposition.

Mr. T. MARTIN moved the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. I have not yet heard of the return in regard to Port Arthur and Fort William, which was promised some time ago.

Mr. HYMAN. I think I will be able to lay it on the table of the House either tomorrow or on Monday.

On motion of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, House adjourned at 11.25 p.m.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

FRIDAY, April 28, 1905.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

### LIVE STOCK RECORD ASSOCIATIONS.

Hon. SYDNEY FISHER (Minister of Agriculture) moved for leave to introduce Bill (No. 148) respecting the incorporation of Live Stock Record Associations.

Mr. SPROULE. Will the hon. gentleman explain?

Mr. FISHER. It will perhaps be proper for me to give a little explanation of the objects of this Bill. Hon. gentlemen who have been for some time in the House will remember that about five or six years ago—I think in 1899—an Act was passed to authorize the incorporation of Dominion record associations. That Act was for the purpose of authorizing associations of a Dominion character for the purpose of keeping the records of thoroughbred live stock, under which the authority was given for the formation of associations, each association to be for the purpose of a particular breed or class of animals. Under the Act associations were empowered to adopt con-breed or class of animals. Under the Act, a number of associations were incorporated. Recently a request has come from the live stock men of Canada, expressed particularly in the winter of 1904, to nationalize the records of thoroughbred stock in Canada. That request was formulated and presented to me as Minister of Agriculture at the meeting of live stock men which took place last winter, and which was called the national live stock gathering. They wished two things; in the first place, to have the official stamp of the department affixed to all pedigrees which were to be issued by the record associations incorporated under this Act, and they wished, in the next place, to have this work of keeping these live stock