

portion of the people under a sense of injustice, determined on revenge and upon getting even if they can? Are these beneficent auspices under which to launch these new provinces? It would seem as though this new parliament had already all the trouble that it would care for in connection with these Autonomy Bills. It would appear as though some of the questions in connection with them have already been settled with a great deal of difficulty. Then why do we gratuitously undertake to bring in and impose upon this new legislature a question which will certainly lead to trouble in the future? It seems to me that the government should carefully consider all the facts and figures which have been laid before them by this side of the House. I do not believe that the Prime Minister appreciates the real situation as the figures reveal it, and I have great hopes that when the government understand what is being done, they will consent to the naming of an impartial commission, which will certainly be the most satisfactory method of dealing with this matter.

Mr. HAGGART. I do not intend to take part in the debate at this late hour. I merely wish to point out that this clause is the most peculiar one that I have ever seen. I do not see the Minister of Justice here. Perhaps the First Minister will explain it:

Until the said legislature otherwise provides, the legislative assembly shall be composed of twenty-five members, to be elected to represent the electoral divisions defined in schedule 'B' to this Act, having due regard to the distribution of population and existing local divisions.

Why is this limitation inserted, 'having due regard to the distribution of population and existing local divisions'? Do you intend to give the courts the power to say whether this is done or not? You have an enacting clause and a schedule which provides for the delimitation of the boundaries of the different constituencies, and then you add these words as if you were not sure that your schedule was all right.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. I do not for my part see any necessity for these words. They are simply a statement of what we are doing. I look on the words as surplusage. I contend that this schedule is prepared with due regard to the distribution of population and existing local divisions.

Mr. BARKER. It is a good sentence misplaced.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. Only it is not appreciated in the south, but is appreciated in the north.

Progress reported.

FIRST READINGS.

Bill (No. 182) to incorporate the Sterling Bank of Canada.—Mr. Campbell.

Bill (No. 183) respecting a certain patent of the Metal Volatilization Company.—Mr. McCool.

On motion of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, House adjourned at 11.30 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

WEDNESDAY, June 21, 1905.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

QUESTIONS.

CLASSIFICATION OF DAIRY PRODUCTS FOR EXPORTATION.

Mr. DESJARDINS asked:

1. Has the government received from any dairy association a request for the classification of dairy products, for exportation?

2. If not, is it the intention of the government to bring in, during this session or the next session, a Bill for the obligatory classification of dairy products, and of butter and cheese especially?

3. Will the government institute a classification of three kinds instead of two?

Hon. SYDNEY FISHER (Minister of Agriculture):

1. No.

2. No.

3. At a conference of the dairy instructors and experts held under the auspices of the dairying division of the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa, in November of 1903, the following resolution in favour of three grades of butter and cheese was passed:

'Whereas cheese and butter are now almost universally classed as 'finest' and 'under finest' when purchased from the factories, making practically only two grades, be it resolved that it would tend to improve the quality of both products if there were at least three grades recognized.

Since then Mr. Ruddick, Dairy Commissioner, has devoted a great deal of time to this matter, and quite recently has formulated a new classification and standards of quality to be observed by the official referee of butter and cheese at Montreal in giving his certificates as to the quality of cheese and creamery butter which he is asked to examine. This new classification embraces three grades for cheese and three grades for creamery butter, namely, 1st grade, 2nd grade and 3rd grade. The Dairy Commissioner has no power to enforce this new classification, except in so far as it applies to the work of the official referee; but it has already been adopted by a number of the cheese and butter boards; and it is hoped that in time all the selling of