

thority to legislate for the future welfare and good government of the said territory; and it was thereby further ordered that, without prejudice to any obligations arising from an approved report therein recited, Rupert's Land should from and after the said 15th of July, 1870, be admitted into and become part of the Dominion of Canada upon the terms and conditions in that behalf in the said Order in Council also set forth.

And whereas, in and by the British North America Act, 1871, being chapter 28 of the Acts of the parliament of the United Kingdom passed in the session thereof held in the thirty-fourth and thirty-fifth years of the reign of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria, it is enacted that the parliament of Canada may from time to time establish new provinces in any territories forming for the time being part of the Dominion of Canada, but not included in any province thereof, and may, at the time of such establishment, make provisions for the constitution and administration of any such province, and for the passing of laws for the peace, order and good government of such province and for its representation in the said parliament of Canada:

And whereas, in and by the British North America Act, 1886, being chapter 35 of the Acts of the parliament of the United Kingdom passed in the session thereof held in the forty-ninth and fiftieth years of the reign of Her said Majesty, the parliament of Canada was empowered to make provision for the representation in the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, of any territories which for the time being form part of the Dominion of Canada but are not included in any province thereof; and it was thereby also enacted that the said Act, and the British North America Act, 1867, and the British North America Act, 1871, shall be construed together.

And whereas that part of the said land and territory hereinafter described has not been included in any province of the Dominion and has heretofore been provisionally governed by and pursuant to legislation of the parliament of Canada.

And whereas it is expedient to establish as a province that part of the said land and territory hereinafter described, and to make provision for the constitution and administration of such province and for the passing of laws for the peace, order and good government thereof and for its representation in the parliament of Canada.

Therefore His Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:

Amendment (Mr. Barker) negatived on the same division, last recorded.

On the question for the third reading of the Bill.

Mr. H. BOURASSA. I rise to offer a word of personal explanation and to give the reasons why I do not feel disposed to vote either for the third reading of the Bill or against it, so that I may not be accused of shirking the vote. My reason is this: I am in favour of the principle of the Bill; that is, I am in favour of giving the Northwest Territories their autonomy, but the Bill does not contain what in my opinion is a sufficient guarantee of the rights of the minorities that we are bound to protect, and therefore I cannot vote with those who

are opposed to any kind of guarantee to the minorities, nor can I vote for a Bill which in my opinion does not give a sufficient measure of guarantee.

Mr. ARMAND LAVERGNE. Mr. Speaker, I suppose I shall not surprise any one in the House by saying that I take the same position as the hon. member for Labelle. I therefore leave the House before the vote is taken.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the third time, on division, and passed.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER moved third reading of Bill (No. 70) to establish and provide for the government of the province of Saskatchewan.

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Speaker, before this motion passes I would ask the House to allow me to occupy a few minutes further on the subject of the Canadian Pacific Railway exemption. I have no hope, after the reception that was given to the amendment I moved this afternoon, that I shall succeed with a similar amendment moved to the Saskatchewan Bill, but I feel that I would not be doing my full duty to the proposed province in which I live, and to the electors in that proposed province which I have the honour to represent, if I did not utter on this motion a further word of protest with regard to this feature of the measure; and I do this notwithstanding that I am probably bringing again upon myself the severe disapprobation of the hon. leader of the opposition. In face of the fact that that hon. gentleman has for three or four months been responsible for a waste of the time of this parliament, and responsible for a great deal of disturbance throughout the Dominion of Canada upon these autonomy measures, he rises to censure a representative from the Northwest Territories who has the hardihood to ask the House to listen for thirty or forty minutes to a protest with regard to a limitation on the autonomy proposed to be given to the people of these two provinces, which is a very serious matter in comparison with the comparatively trifling matter that he is responsible for causing to be discussed at such great length and disturbing the country to such an extent. The hon. leader of the opposition said that the words I used in my amendment were meaningless—that the power of expropriation was inherently in this parliament, and that, therefore, it was meaningless to put in this Act words giving notice to the people of these provinces and to the Canadian Pacific Railway Company that this parliament intends to exercise its inherent powers of expropriation if it were not able by some other means to obtain the relinquishment of these exemptions.

Mr. LALOR. What construction did the hon. gentleman's leader put upon the resolution?