

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. I think the Minister of Justice has not been fully seized of the facts with regard to the Regina 'Leader,' after all. I just now sent into the reading room twice for the first part of the report of the debate to which he has referred, and I twice got the answer that the volume cannot be found. I have compared that portion of the debate contained in the 'Leader' of the 2nd of January, 1902, which the Minister of Justice has produced, and I find that it begins at a portion of the speech which follows that quoted by my hon. friend from Qu'Appelle. Therefore my hon. friend from Qu'Appelle in stating that there was a context which would explain the references of Mr. Haultain to this system, was absolutely right. The Minister of Justice, it seems to me, should not have made the contradiction which he did unless he had examined the previous portion of the speech, which is not contained in this issue at all. It begins in this way: 'Continued from last issue,' and then proceeds almost at the very words which my hon. friend the Minister of Justice quoted.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Was my quotation accurate or not? That is the question.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. The quotation of the Minister of Justice was accurate this far, that he read exactly what appears in this issue of the paper, but it was not accurate in this respect, that he did not refer to the context which was referred to by my hon. friend (Mr. Lake), and which does not appear in this paper at all, but which did appear in a previous issue.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. I will take the trouble to verify that also. I am dealing with a report in the Regina 'Leader' which was never corrected.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. I am dealing with a pamphlet which seems to have been issued with authority.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Probably revised and corrected.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. It may have been revised.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. I am quoting from the original.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. We all revise our speeches in this House for instance.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. The fact is that I purported to quote something from the Regina 'Leader,' and the question is, did I quote that correctly or incorrectly?

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. Perfectly correctly, so far as reading the actual words contained in the second part of the speech is concerned. But the first part of the speech we cannot find because we cannot find the issue of the paper in which it is given.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. It can be found.

Mr. COCKSHUTT.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. Then my hon. friend is more fortunate than I, because my hon. friend from Qu'Appelle (Mr. Lake) has tried to find it many times, and I myself have endeavoured to secure it, but we cannot get it. I am assuming that the first part of the speech, as reported in the Regina 'Leader'—I am making that assumption because I cannot find the paper—is along the same lines as the report contained in this pamphlet.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Is my hon. friend in the position to say whether or not the words I quoted from the Regina 'Leader' are to be found in that pamphlet?

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. I believe they are very much the same, and I will pass over the pamphlet, if my hon. friend from Qu'Appelle has no objection. On page 18, the Minister of Justice will find that it gives, if not the same words, fairly well the substance, although I have not examined it with great care. Perhaps the gentleman who is assisting my hon. friend will be able to tell him by what authority this pamphlet was issued and as to whether or not it is likely to be accurate.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. It was issued by the Northwest government.

Mr. INGRAM. When I was interrupted a moment ago, I said that I had but few words to add; but since the speech made by the Minister of Finance, I have concluded to offer some further remarks, especially in reply to those made by him concerning the election recently held in Edmonton. For some weeks past this House has resounded time and again with challenges to the government to open constituencies in order to test public feeling in the country. Hon. members on this side have been free in making these challenges, and the government could not muster up sufficient courage to accept them. But at last, after due consideration, I presume, they thought it probably wise to appoint a Minister of the Interior. Rumour had it that the constituency of West Assiniboia was to have been opened for the purpose of testing public opinion; but for some reason or other unknown to members of the opposition, the government saw fit to change their opinions at the eleventh hour and decided to open up the constituency of Edmonton instead. What I want to draw the attention of the people of this country to is this fact, that the Conservative party were asked to enter into a contest in a district which, as nearly as I can figure it out, comprises an area of 426 miles by 210 miles. Here is a constituency of this area, away from railway communication to a large extent; and the government, in order to defeat the Conservative party of this country, swore in the Minister of the Interior, the member for Edmonton, on Saturday April 15 and declared nomination day the 25th, so that ten days after