

lature together and test the feeling of the people of the Northwest Territories on this question. If he calls the legislature together, either as it stands at present, or with the vacant seats filled, I venture to say that he will not have a majority when he tries to make a party question out of this matter.

Mr. SPROULE. Could not the hon. gentlemen's friends make a better test than that by appointing a Minister of the Interior and sending him back for re-election?

Mr. TURRIFF. The hon. the First Minister said the other day in my hearing that he would appoint a Minister of the Interior within three months; and when that time comes, if he chooses one of the members from the Northwest Territories and he goes back for re-election, I promise you that, whoever he may be, he will come back here with a larger majority than he had on the 3rd of November last.

Mr. SPROULE. Let them hold this Bill until that election takes place, and see what the public sentiment is in the west.

Mr. TURRIFF. Do not be a bit alarmed about it; you will get plenty of it before you are through.

Mr. SPROULE. The storm centre of alarm is further west to-day.

Mr. TURRIFF. We heard a great deal of talk like this in connection with the Grand Trunk Pacific. We were told in my constituency that we were not going to be able to save our deposit; but what was the result? Seven of the Liberal members on this side of the House from the Northwest have each an average majority of over 1,200 votes.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I would ask our hon. friends on the other side of the House to drop this agitation. Come down to common sense, and let us deal with the Bill that is now before parliament.

Mr. SPROULE. Would it not be well to give that advice to the Toronto 'Globe'?

Mr. TURRIFF. Let us get on with the work of the country. Let us start these new provinces without hampering them with an agitation such as hon. gentlemen opposite are trying to work up. Instead of that, let us leave them to devote their time and energies to developing the great natural resources that Providence has blessed them with, and in a short time you will see them two of the greatest and most populous, liberal and broad-minded provinces that exist in the Canadian confederacy.

Mr. URIAH WILSON moved the adjournment of the debate.

Mr. FIELDING. In assenting to the motion, I should like to be permitted to make a remark. Although we have had numerous speeches on this question, I am advised that there are still more numerous speeches to follow, a very large number of members

desiring to address the House. If that be the fact, we are likely to have a protracted debate even under the best conditions, and I think it will be necessary for us to work a little harder and sit a little later. Therefore, I hope that if a motion like this is hereafter made at this early hour, it may not be pressed, but we may sit a little later and get the debate finished.

Motion agreed to, and debate adjourned.

On motion of Mr. Fielding, House adjourned at 11.20 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

WEDNESDAY, April 5, 1905.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

FIRST READING.

Bill (No. 129) to amend an Act respecting certain patents of Wm. A. Damen.—Mr. Campbell.

QUESTIONS.

DREDGING THE MIMINEGASH RIVER.

Mr. LEFURGEY—by Mr. Taylor—asked:

1. Is it the intention of the government to have any dredging done on the Miminegash river this coming spring or summer?
2. If any dredging is to be done, when will the work commence?

Hon. C. S. HYMAN (Acting Minister of Public Works). The matter is under the consideration of the Public Works Department.

STEAMER 'SEQUIN.'

Mr. BENNETT asked:

1. Has the Department of Marine and Fisheries purchased the steamer 'Sequin'?
2. If so, what is the date of purchase?
3. What is the name of the vendors?
4. What was the consideration paid?

Hon. R. PREFONTAINE (Minister of Marine and Fisheries). To the first question the answer is no, and the same answer applies to all the other questions.

EXTENSION OF THE BOUNDARIES OF MANITOBA.

On the Orders of the Day being called,

Rt. Hon. Sir WILFRID LAURIER (Prime Minister). I beg to lay upon the table of the House a return supplementary to the return which was laid on the table of the House on Monday last with respect to the claims of the government of Manitoba for an extension of the boundaries of that province. At the same time I move that the rules of the House be suspended, and that the return be printed forthwith.