

of this government; and had they known the hon. member's party subservience, his hide bound, slavish adherence to everything Tory whether right or wrong, they would long have hesitated to ask or receive his advice. I have no objection to this gentleman washing his political garments in Boyne Water, but I do object to his afterwards taking them out of the cess-pool of party prejudice and Conservative misrepresentation and sending them down to Nova Scotia as the pure robes of a patriot.

As well might our Orange supporters there have asked of beelzebub—his opinion of the supreme delights and divine glories of the heavenly world. For the hour he may deceive a few of these Liberals, but only for the hour. Every intelligent Orangeman, every intelligent Catholic, every intelligent citizen, who is not a narrow party slave, if he seek the facts in regard to the school system in the Northwest Territories, will see in that system, righteous justice which panders to none and shows a broad-mindedness which well becomes this broad and great country which by justice and right, we are trying to build into a great nation, broad, tolerant, self-respecting and self-governing.

At six o'clock, House took recess.

After Recess.

House resumed at eight o'clock.

PRIVATE BILLS.

CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE—THIRD READING.

Bill (No. 97) respecting the Dominion Central Railway Company.—Mr. Harty.

DOMINION ATLANTIC RAILWAY COMPANY.

House in committee on Bill (No. 106), respecting the Dominion Atlantic Railway Company.—Mr. Black.

On section 2,

Mr. LAURENCE moved:

That section 2 be amended by adding thereto the following words: And the said Midland division is hereby declared to be a work for the general advantage of Canada.

Motion agreed to.

Bill reported, read the third time, and passed.

PROVINCIAL AUTONOMY IN THE NORTHWEST.

House resumed consideration of the proposed motion of Sir Wilfrid Laurier for the second reading of Bill (No. 69) to establish and provide for the government of the province of Alberta, and the amendment of Mr. R. L. Borden thereto.

Mr. A. J. ADAMSON (Humbolt). Mr. Speaker, the Bill which is now before the House is one of great importance to Canada and particularly to the Northwest Territories which are about to be created into provinces. As I have the honour to represent a constituency which forms a part of these great Territories I consider it my duty to give some reasons why I intend to support the Bill which is before the House as I certainly will do. I have listened with a great deal of attention to the views expressed by hon. members on both sides of the House and I have endeavoured to realize their point of view. I was particularly struck with the simile used by the hon. member for East Grey (Mr. Sproule) when he congratulated my right hon. friend the Prime Minister (Sir Wilfrid Laurier) on the introduction of this Bill. He likened the provinces which are being created to a pair of twins which had just arrived on the scene. At the time I thought the comparison was a very happy one, but further consideration struck me that it perhaps did not quite fit the occasion. I thought it would have been fairer to have compared the two young provinces to a couple of youths who have been under probation, who have completed their education and are about to enter into their estate. The Dominion government have been the trustees who have been looking after their interests until they came of age and until they were fit to be entrusted with their own affairs. I thought the simile was very well taken by the hon. member for East Grey, but at the same time I thought possibly his professional pride was piqued at not being called in as consulting physician on the auspicious occasion. These provinces, having attained man's estate, are about to become independent to a certain extent; that is as independent as any person can be in these days, or as any province can be that is a member of this great confederacy. No province can be perfectly independent any more than any individual who is a member of a community can be perfectly independent. There must be some restraints to guard against encroaching upon the rights, privileges and property of the different provinces, but so long as they keep within their rights and privileges they are free. It is so with these new provinces. They are now the centre of observations and the methods adopted by them at this present juncture and their ability to cope with the problems with which they must deal will have a most powerful effect in the future of these provinces. If at the commencement of their career they deal recklessly, weakly, or carelessly with the questions which will be presented to them their future career will be most injuriously affected and all that affects them will certainly affect the rest of Canada to an extent that