

THE LEADER.

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REGINA, N.W.T., THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 15, 1902.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

HAULTAIN'S SPEECH

In Closing the Provincial Autonomy Debate in the Assembly.

A QUESTION OF MANDATES.

The Premier Analyses the Position of the Opposition on Autonomy—Dr. Patrick's Absurd Bill of Rights Idea A Hudson's Bay Railway Would Solve Many Difficulties—The Division.

THURSDAY, April 10.
The Speaker took the chair at 2.30 o'clock. Hon. Mr. Bullock introduced a bill for the protection of useful birds and mammals, and Mr. A. E. Cross one respecting the city of Calgary, both of which were read a first time.

Mr. McKay moved for the correspondence in connection with the erection of the Osburn school district. The bill to incorporate the Roman Catholic Bishop of Athabasca passed its second reading. The bill to amend the ordinance incorporating the Saskatchewan Exploration company also passed its second reading.

MEDICAL PROFESSION ORDINANCE.
Dr. Patrick moved the second reading of a bill to amend the Medical Profession Ordinance, so that any person producing a diploma of qualification as a doctor of medicine, and a certificate that such diploma has been granted by examinations which entitle him to be registered as a member of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Manitoba, should be allowed to be registered in the Territories upon payment of a fee of five dollars. At present any student must first pay the \$5 for registration in Manitoba to avoid another examination in the Territories.

Dr. Davyler opposed the bill, because it was granting a special privilege to Manitoba University, denied to the other universities of Canada. He moved the six month hoist.

Mr. Gillis and Dr. Elliott opposed the bill on the same grounds. Dr. Elliott was in favor of more liberal legislation for the admission of qualified doctors.

Mr. A. S. Rosenroll and Mr. Thos. McKay supported the bill in the interests of the public.

Dr. Scott said the amendments making it applicable to the whole Dominion could be moved when in committee of the whole. He would not object to that.

The House divided on the amendment, which was carried by 19 to 10.

PREMIER... AUTONOMY DEBATE

Mr. Haultain, in closing the debate on provincial autonomy, said he felt somewhat under a disadvantage in taking up this subject which had been discussed at so much length. However, a number of important questions had been raised during the debate and he felt that he would have to ask the House, even at this stage to allow him a short consideration of them. After three days' debate, after the motion had been put and a lengthy amendment proposed; after a number of long speeches, the general result had been the important question that there were divergences of opinion with regard to the needs of each of the provincial institutions should be worked out. These divergences of opinion, which were mentioned by the Minister of the Interior, had been still more clearly indicated. So far as the main result of the debate, as in as far as carried on by the men on the other side of the House, went it had only added to the inform which he fancied.

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was pretty well possessed by the Minister of the Interior, that there are divergences of opinion with regard to the area of the proposed province proposed. The reply which he proposed to make on the general debate, was one necessitated purely by the matters which were contained in the amendment, and by the statements made by hon. gentlemen in their speeches in support of the amendment. In his opinion the amendment was not relevant, in any sense, to the main motion. It introduced something which had nothing whatever to do with the main motion, and if hon. gentlemen wish to go on record, they would have found better opportunity by moving a specific amendment. He did not take the point of order because he did not wish to allow it to be open to the charge of an attempt to beat down the hon. gentleman, and attempted to read into his speech, on moving the motion, a meaning and significance it did not suggest. He had said distinctly that he did not ask an expression of opinion regarding the contents of the Memorial addressed to the Ottawa Government, that the question of one or two or three provinces, or even annexation to Manitoba, was not even remotely concerned with the resolution. In spite of this plain statement, hon. gentlemen had persisted, through wilful misinterpretation or misconception, upon reading a contrary meaning into it. They want to tell the Government at Ottawa that the proposal to limit the powers of the government of the provinces in the West was justifiable; and they want, more than that, to say that they do not want to hasten the change until some unanimity has been obtained upon a subject which this debate has proved there never can be unanimity. The Opposition practically say: Because the Dominion Government has discovered there are divergences of opinion, we are going to vote want of confidence against the local administration which by bringing in an amendment which simply proves that the Government's recovery is correct. The Dominion Government and then the two divergences of opinion, therefore, in the local government because they hold one opinion regarding this question.

DR. PATRICK AND PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS.

Before going into the general question, there were one or two features of the discussion he wished to notice. In speaking to the motion before, he had drawn attention to a statement of Dr. Haultain, the West Prince Albert, made on the public platform, and a private statement—that it was private to the platform or House statement—which was attributed to him as being made in the rotunda of a Regina hotel. The hon. member from Yorkton (Dr. Patrick) took advantage of that statement, and accused him of having been guilty of a gross breach of parliamentary conduct in divulging a private conversation; and took advantage of the fact to divulge a private conversation between himself and the hon. member for Yorkton some time ago. This was no necessary to do in the House. The difference between a statement made in a public hotel and a statement made in a private conversation. Did he need to explain to his hon. friend the difference between a public statement, and a private conversation some years ago when according to his own statement, they were upon terms of a certain amount of political association? How long could political parties stand together if the moment a gentleman turned his coat, he preserves silence. He regrets the delay, and then indulges in unwholesome glee that the Federal Government has thrown down. He will not support a motion which simply presses upon the Dominion Government the desirability of immediately settling the question.

The hon. member for West Calgary (Mr. Bennett) though an ardent

provincialist, ranks himself with his leader and seems to be pleased that no action has been taken at Ottawa. He supports an amendment that simply means that the question should be postponed until the next Legislature meets.

Then the hon. member from Yorkton (Dr. Scott), he had certain divergences of opinion on this subject, and lest his new associates should be misled, his true position should now be explained to them. (Laughter) The hon. gentleman has had various theories. While he was free to confess that obstinacy was a vice, under certain circumstances, it was yet a most desirable thing under others. The hon. member could be relieved from any charge of either consistency or obstinacy so far as adherence to any phase of this important question goes. He admitted the other day at one time favoring the western idea; but after obtaining the tenor of the opposition, he argued that the faith of the Dominion was pledged to the constitution of these three provincial districts Assiniboia, Alberta and Saskatchewan. Later on we find him with a new god. As late as 1899, he proposed a scheme of two provisional provinces. What that meant, the speaker did not exactly know. The hon. gentleman talks in the larger language of the earlier gods, sometimes, in discussing this question. His idea was to divide the country up in two, with an eastern and a western division, which should be made provinces at some indefinite date in the future. The hon. gentleman is supporting this proposal, but he has not established it as a political factor, a source of embarrassment to his friends, of hope to his political enemies, and of speculation on the part of the rest of the world. What a strange combination the hon. gentleman completes—a combination which, apart from very few discordant notes which have been expressed on nearly all the important points at issue in this debate, has been wandering and stumbling about in a sort of dreary silence of negation. This bantling political party reminded him of the words of the poet of

"An infant crying in the night
An infant crying for the light.
And with no language but a cry."

The infant apparently was such a powerless state that they had been obliged to send for the doctor. (Laughter) It would be interesting if they could draw aside the veil of secrecy which covers the proceedings of political parties, so that it could only be admitted for an evening to the deliberations of these gentlemen when they are preparing their ammunition. It would be interesting to hear the hon. gentleman from Yorkton dilating on the golden beauty of silence to his leader (Mr. McDonald), or exchanging compliments with the hon. member for West Calgary (Mr. Bennett) in the way of assenting to the questionable maxim that the means justifies the end, in return for the hon. gentleman's admission as to the steps which are given to the other day. He would like to know whether the policy contained in the amendment was the result of the new political combination, or if it was simply a coincidence. If the former then they must attribute the authorship of the amendment to the hon. member from Yorkton: but he believed the only consolation that gentleman would have when he came to reflect upon it in the future, would be the conclusion, in the words of Touchstone, "It's a very ill-formed thing, sit but mine own." The opposition had taken the position of Mr. Dooley when he wrote his presidential address. Mr. Dooley in dealing with the recent question of the Nicaragua Canal, said: "Something ought to be done for the Nicaragua Canal, but what the devil is it, I don't know." (Laughter.)

DR. PATRICK. On that occasion I pointed out that the States of the American Union were giving back many of their powers, even the borrowing powers.

MR. HAULTAIN. Do I understand the hon. gentleman to say that he was in favor of the borrowing powers being extended to the two provisional provinces?

DR. PATRICK. Certainly.

MR. HAULTAIN. Well, that only indicates another of those quick changes in which the hon. gentleman is such an artist. Within less than six months of that date, the hon. gentleman in a pamphlet issued for the information of his constituents, at the time he was getting his mandate, made this statement:

"Next society sent out to the other residents of Yorkton district, and not only in the Legislature, but outside of it, I have had no opportunity to urge that the matter of establishing a province or provinces should be delayed as long as possible, as it is so soon after the formation of the Canadian confederation."

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