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Hon. J. S. MACDONALD said he would leave the clerk to decide what course he should take in regard to the objections urged by Mr. Blake. He (Mr. Macdonald) held a different opinion from that of Mr. Blake. That hon. gentleman had chosen to state that these gentlemen were wanting in common sense of shame if they should venture to exercise their rights in this House—the rights with which their constituents invested them. Mr. Blake thought that, because he said so, these gentlemen should be dragooned out of the House. But he (Mr. Macdonald) fancied that these gentlemen would act according to their conscience and their taste. That was the way in which he (Mr. Macdonald) regarded that these gentlemen ought to pursue their course in this House. The clerk was here to perform only one single act, until the House elected a Speaker. He (Mr. M.) held that the House was not perfectly constituted to receive the reports from the judges. A high authority said that the House of Commons was only breathed into existence when the Queen addressed the House, and the Speaker was elected. Here was as yet no Speaker, and there was no address. This was the education they had had, and they were not a House until the Lieutenant-Governor called them together. He would not dictate the course the clerk should take; but would leave that officer to do what he considered to be his duty. But he (Mr. M.) apprehended that there was nothing in the objections that had been taken.

Mr. MACKENZIE said he was astonished and pained to find the Attorney-General of the Province and the leader of the House, to whom above all others, the public should look to guard public morality, taking upon him to advise those who had been unseated to come here and take their place as if they had been duly elected. If it was possible that the law could be so construed as to justify, in any pretext, such advice on the part of the Attorney-General, it was quite manifest to everyone that it could only have been an unintentional wording of the Act, an inadvertency; but he contended that the Act was clear and explicit; that the decision of the judges was final; and when once that decision was rendered no one who was unseated by the judges had any right to appear, hear and vote upon any question before the House. It was quite evident that the first duty of the House was its purgation, to declare who was entitled by law to take a seat there. His honourable friend had said that for any gentleman unseated to come there and vote it would be an offence against public law and public decency. That sentiment he believed was the sentiment that prevailed in the public mind, and he was glad to know—at least he had been so informed—that of the six gentlemen who had been unseated only two had ventured to break the law in the way advised by the Attorney-General. That even two should do so was a matter of very great regret—a matter of almost as much regret as that the honourable gentleman opposite should conceive it to be his duty to advise, far less to permit, such a violation of public law and public decency. (Cheers.)

Mr. PRINCE said that it seemed to him proper first to know whether there were any such persons as those referred to by the hon. member for South Bruce. Then in the next place the question might arise why did they come there? It might not be proper to lecture members on taste and decency, but if there were such persons as had been mentioned, no doubt they would act according to their own taste and conscience in coming there.

The CLERK said that as the gentlemen came forward he had sworn them in; and he as Clerk of the House, could not question their right to take the oath. He presumed that the motion of the member for Bruce was to direct him (the Clerk) to lay certain papers on the table, but he had been advised not to do so, as His Excellency had not yet opened the House. It would not be competent for him to lay the papers on the table, because there was no House to make an order to that effect.

The motion made by Hon. J. S. Macdonald was then put to the House by the Clerk. It was carried without opposition.

The CLERK then declared Mr. R. W. Scott duly elected.

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD and Hon. Mr. CARLING escorted Mr. Scott to the chair.

The SPEAKER then returned thanks. He said he begged to return his grateful thanks for the high honour. He would endeavour to discharge his duties fairly and impartially, and he trusted he might look with confidence to the cordial support and co-operation of gentlemen from both sides of the House. (Applause.)

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD congratulated the Speaker upon his unanimous election and he believed he would receive the support of both sides of the House in the discharge of his duties as Speaker. He moved the adjournment of the House.

Mr. BLAKE said he could assure Mr. Speaker that he would have no cause at any time to regret his elevation to the chair, owing to anything that might arise from that side of the House. He might count upon their support being accorded to him in the responsible position which he had been called to fill. He had very great pleasure in making these assurances, and the more so, as he had known that gentleman's parliamentary career for some years back. He was glad to remain silent on the subject when he (the Speaker) was proposed to take the Chair, and also because it was his earnest desire that the first act of the new Legislature should not be stained by the record upon its votes of the names of gentlemen who had no right to sit there. He was glad that had been avoided, and he trusted they should not find these gentlemen's names recorded upon any vote, as he could not help regarding it as a catastrophe.

On motion of the Attorney-General the House then adjourned at 3.30.

The unseated members who took the oath and their seats were, Lauder, of South Grey; Colquhoun, of Stormont; and Hamilton, of Prescott.