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Mr. WOOD (South Victoria) said he had told the Atty-General that he should resign after the votes that had been given.

Mr. HODGINS addressed the House. He said that he regretted to hear from the Atty-General that it was not the intention of the Ministry to place their resignations in the hands of the Lieut-Governor.

Mr. BOULTBEE thought that considering the fact that he had worked hard in the interest of the Reform party in times past, he had not been fairly treated by the organs of that party during his recent election.

Mr. TOOLEY also wanted to define his position. He denied that the Railway Aid Act had been used to influence votes in his constituency, and said that he had been elected to support the general policy of the Government and would do so.

Mr. SINCLAIR proceeded to give his reasons for voting want of confidence in the Ministry. These reasons might be classed under two heads. First, he condemned them because in 1867 they entered into a conspiracy to rob this country of the best system of Government we could have.

Mr. DEROCHE remarked that, in his recent election, he was opposed by the Ottawa Government, who sent the Postmaster-General into his constituency to work against him; and also by the Local Government.

Mr. McCALL argued that, as the Government had accepted the motion of the member for South Bruce, they could no longer be charged with an usurpation of public liberty and constitutional government in connection with railway aid.

The members were then (11:40) called in and the House divided on Mr. Mackenzie's amendment, with the following result:

YEAS—Messrs. Barber, Baxter, Blake, Christie, Clarke (Wellington), Clarke (North), Clemons, Cameron, Carling, Christie, Clarke (Wellington), Clarke (North), Clemons, Cook, Cory, Coyns, Crooks, Crosby, Cumberland, Currie, Dawson, Deac, Fairbairn, Farwell, Ferguson, Finlayson, Gibb, Gibbons, Gibson, Gow, Graham, Grange, Guest, Harrington, Hodgins, Macdonald (Cornwall), Macdonald (Leeds), McCall (North), McCallum, Mackenzie, McKellar, McKinnon, McManus, McRae, Monteth, Oliver, Pardee, Patterson, Paxton, Perry, Prince, Esad Al Haris, Robinson, Sexton, Sinclair, Smith, Springer, Tooley, Webb, Williams (Durham), Williams (Hamilton), Wilson Wood (Brant), Wood (Victoria). 64

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The SPEAKER therefore declared the motion carried.

Mr. BLAKE said after what had taken place, the Government might carry their Address through as it was amended, though his side of the House did not intend to give it any further consideration.

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD said he believed the Speaker was elected to support the Government, and with his vote the result would have been a tie.

Mr. MACKENZIE said the Government had little cause for congratulation. Two members who voted for him on this vote had declared that they had voted a censure upon him yesterday, and did not want to repeat the dose to-day.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON said the two parties stood on an equality in the House, and when the elections for the vacant seats were held it would be found that the Government had a majority in that House.

An allusion to the Hon. Mr. Wood called that gentleman to his feet.

Hon. Mr. WOOD said that no hon. member had been made acquainted with his determination to resign his office.

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Mr. BLAKE in a few humorous remarks twitted the Government with the sudden access to its majority; and complimented the Government on having voted want of confidence in themselves.

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD said he wished the Opposition luck with their vote.

Mr. MACKENZIE, in a few remarks, gave the Government to understand that if the Attorney-General meant to hint that he had the sanction of the Lieut-Governor for his course in threatening not to resign, he must bring a written or verbal statement to that effect.

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD—The Government on Monday will give the proper explanations. The Attorney-General then moved the adjournment of the House.

Mr. MACKENZIE—We consent. The Address, as amended, was then passed.

The House adjourned at 12.40.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

Mr. McKellar—Bill entitled "An Act to render Members of the House of Commons of Canada ineligible for the Legislative Assembly of Ontario."

Parliament of Ontario

SECOND PARLIAMENT—FIRST SESSION.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 3 o'clock. PUBLIC ACCOUNTS. Hon. J. S. MACDONALD laid on the table the Public Accounts of the Province for last year.

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD—In obedience to the Order of the House the Address in answer to the Speech from the Throne, was presented to His Excellency and he has been pleased to make the following reply, which I now place in your hands.

Mr. SPEAKER read the reply, which was as follows:—

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly,—

I thank you for your dutiful and loyal Address and the assurances that the important subjects submitted to you will receive your best attention.

(Signed) W. P. HOWLAND.

Mr. BLAKE rose and said that they were now in a critical position. The address to His Excellency—to which a gracious reply was now received—showed absolutely the want of confidence of the House in His Excellency's Ministers—or rather in that late Administration which still remained in office.

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD—(Hear, hear.) Mr. BLAKE said there was one thing not noticed in the gracious answer—it was that there was no allusion to the vacant seats as a reason why the Government should not resign.

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That an humble address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, representing—

That this House has received His Excellency's gracious reply to the address of this House, adopted on Friday last.

That this House was thus declared to be, as it in fact was and is, competent in its present state to deal with all questions which might be brought before it.

That the Ministers have been defeated in each of the four divisions which have taken place, and have never had control of the House.

That the continuation in office of the remaining Ministers is under existing circumstances at variance with the spirit of the constitution.

That the supplies voted by this House will lapse on the 31st day of December instant, and this House would be wanting to its duty if it should not before that time (as was done under like circumstances last year) make provision for the expenditure, under Ministers possessing its confidence, of the monies necessary to carry on the public service until the final estimates for the ensuing year can be voted.

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD said that he refused to resign because he believed that the strength of parties would be altered by the approaching elections.

They were so held to oblige some political friends of the Government, who said that they could succeed but if the elections were not held in the summer time.

When Parliament met after the elections the Opposition did not dare to bring in a motion, stating that the Government had misapplied the money, either with regard to the railway act, or the drainage act, or any other measure giving the Government power to spend money.

He held that all the powers to spend money given to the Government by the late Legislature were asked for and received for the sole purpose of benefiting the country, and not to keep them in power.

He went on to say that the policy of the Opposition in regard to public expenditure would open the way to "log-rolling" and fraud in the Legislature, just as it was in Albany.

He contended that the general course of the present Government was acceptable to the country at large, and argued that the railway appropriation was one above all others that should not be condemned.

Mr. MACKENZIE said the Attorney-General had called upon him, and asked if he had received letters on this matter from Mr. King, of the Montreal Bank, and Mr. Stephen, and he told him he had, but that he was not in a position to bring the matter before the House to-day.

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD said the House should have the benefit of the denial, such as it was.

He then went on to say that they were within two or three days of the time for adjournment for the holidays.