

MAJORITY OF 50 ON FIRST DIVISION

Government Votes Down Opposition Resolution.

STUDHOLME WITH LATTER.

Heated Debate Marks Close of Boundary Discussion.

Sir James Charges That Elliott Amendment Came From Ottawa—Premier Declares Government Protected Interests of Province.

By a vote of 72 to 22 the resolution introduced some days ago by Mr. N. W. Rowell, K.C., Opposition leader, calling upon the Government to protest against the Manitoba boundary settlement and declare for a larger share of the territory of Keewatin, was rejected in the Legislature yesterday, and the amendment of Mr. R. R. Gamey, expressing satisfaction with the boundary settlement, accepted. Mr. Allan Studholme voted with the Opposition. The debate, protracted beyond the preceding day, was not without humorous incidents. At the opening of the sitting Mr. Speaker gave a written opinion on the point of order raised on Tuesday, in which he declared that the discussion of financial terms was irrelevant to the principle of the main resolution. He then proceeded to show that the second amendment introduced by Mr. Elliott (West Middlesex) for the same reason could not be allowed to stand. Sir James Whitney pointed out that he had taken no objection to the introduction of Mr. Elliott's amendment, although "in the strict sense of the word it has no right here."

Amendment Irregular.

In vigorous terms the Prime Minister denounced the procedure of the Liberals in the House, and twitted Mr. Rowell for going to Ottawa and imbibing inspiration at the feet of the political Gamaliel, and coming back with a resolution that Sir Wilfrid Laurier would never have attempted to place before the House of Commons. Mr. Elliott replied that such a statement was absolutely untrue, and the change in his amendment was brought about by the receipt of a copy of the bill which the Right Hon. Mr. Borden had introduced in the House of Commons, which revealed the fact that a financial adjustment had been made in favor of Manitoba.

Sir James said Mr. Elliott's amendment was close to the border line of irregularity, but he did not wish it ruled out of order, although he wished to point out that it was entirely different from the copy which had been sent to him. He denied that there was any suggestion that the Ontario Government did not push its claim. The people knew that the Government had done the very best in the interests of the Province, which was only what had been expected of it.

Sir James Quotes Liberals.

There was no word in the entire debate to show that even the Liberal members at Ottawa, who connived at the settlement proposed by Sir Wilfrid Laurier, had intimated that the division was an injustice to Ontario.

He quoted Sir Wilfrid's remarks in the House of Commons to show that nothing was begrudged to Manitoba. The entire solution was more than a question of mere money. "Financial terms were not a corollary of the boundary question," thundered Sir James. Manitoba could come at any time and ask for an adjustment of terms on a claim which had been admitted years and years ago. Sir James also supported his argument with quotations from the speeches of Hon. Wm. Pugsley and Hon. Frank Oliver. The fact of the matter was that Ontario was getting 768,000 acres of land for all time, and would never have to construct one mile of railway.

Statement Was Untrue.

Before Mr. Rowell closed the debate, Mr. Elliott rose to say that the statement of the Prime Minister that his amendment had been sent from Ottawa was "absolutely untrue." But Sir James interrupted with the remark that he "would like to know how many speeches the hon. gentleman wished to make on this matter."

Mr. Rowell Closes Debate.

Terming the Prime Minister's speech as "calm and judicious," Mr. Rowell said the position of the Government had been to preclude the members of the House from passing judgment upon the rights of Ontario in the premises. He explained the purpose of his mission to Ottawa, and refuted the charge that the amendment upon which the House would be asked to vote was inspired from that source. The fact was that it was made to conform to the terms of the bill before the Commons. He reiterated his criticism that for seven years, while the settlement had been pending, the Government had not taken steps to acquaint itself of the resources of the territory involved, and it was an "exercise of the rights of the executive which the Legislature should not permit or condone."

"We have no opportunity to make any claims," interrupted Sir James. "The hon. gentleman knows and the Province of Manitoba knows that there were no claims made. How could we make claims?"

What Ontario Should Get.

"If Ontario got the same readjustment as Manitoba is getting it would mean \$500,000 more from the Dominion Treasury," continued Mr. Rowell. It was not Sir Wilfrid Laurier or Right Hon. R. L. Borden whom they should criticize to-day, but the men who were entrusted with the interests of the Province of Ontario, and whose duty it was to protect her rights in all circumstances.

"Upon the plain facts of the case the Government of Ontario has neglected its duty, as it has done on tax reform and other things," said Mr. Rowell in conclusion.

Condemns the Government.

Mr. Allan Studholme said, in his opinion, if they wanted to give the five-mile strip to a private railway it would not take it. He condemned the Government for not having taken any steps to gain information about that part of the country.

Speaker Hoyle caused some amusement when, after declaring Mr. Elliott's amendment lost, and the

amendment to the main motion by Mr. Gamey carried, he added, "The question is now upon the main motion (Mr. Rowell's)." "Carried on the same division," he said, amid roars of Liberal laughter.

Budget To-day.

Hon. I. B. Lucas, in the absence of Colonel the Hon. A. J. Matheson, Provincial Treasurer, will deliver the Budget speech this afternoon. He will be followed by Hon. A. G. MacKay for the Opposition.