

SIFTON EXPLAINS

Why He Resigned His Seat
in the Federal Cabinet.DIFFERED WITH HIS LEADER ON
THE SCHOOL QUESTION.But Supports Government on All
Other Questions.

(Special to Daily Herald.)

Ottawa, March 2.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier announced the resignation of Hon. Mr. Sifton, when the House met yesterday.

The prime minister's statement to the House was couched in the briefest possible form. He said:

"I have to inform the House that my colleague, Hon. Mr. Sifton, has resigned his position in the government as minister of the interior. Mr. Sifton finds himself unable to agree with the terms of the bill which has been introduced lately for the admission into the Dominion of the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan, his disagreement being confined altogether to the educational clause.

"The resignation has been placed in the hands of his excellency, who has been pleased to accept it."

SIFTON'S STATEMENT.

Mr. Sifton arose immediately and spoke as follows:

"The statement made by the right honorable prime minister necessitates a very short explanation on my part. When it was determined after the last session that legislation should be introduced creating new provinces out of a portion of the Northwest Territories, I felt called upon, in view of the history of the education question of Canada, to give very serious consideration to the position I should take with regard to the legislative power to be conferred upon the provinces in regard to the subject of education.

"It was necessary that conferences should take place with members of parliament representing the Northwest Territories, and with representatives of the territorial government upon the question of education and other subjects involved in the bill. These conferences were unavoidably postponed until after the beginning of the new year, by the absence of the prime minister, who, after the general election, was compelled to take a short rest and was therefore absent from the country.

"Shortly after the time fixed for the holding of these conferences, I was compelled by my own state of health to leave Ottawa, and was unable to attend the conferences when they took place. Before leaving I discussed with the prime minister most of the subjects that required to be dealt with in the bill and so far as I was able to do so at the time, I communicated my views to him upon the various subjects.

"I may say that when I went away I did not anticipate that it would be considered necessary to introduce the bill creating the new provinces before I returned.

"As members of the House are aware I returned to the capital on Thursday afternoon last. I immediately took occasion to read carefully the speech which the prime minister had delivered when introducing the bill. I regretted that in the speech I found some principles enunciated with which I could not agree. On Friday, the day after my return, I procured a copy of the educational clause of the bill my leader had introduced.

"Between Friday, when I procured a copy of the educational clause, and Monday morning, I gave the subject my best consideration, and I had the privilege in the meantime of an interview with the prime minister on the subject. As the result of such consideration I determined that I could not endorse or support the principles of the educational clause. Under these circumstances my duty became perfectly clear and on Monday morning I wrote the prime minister tendering my resignation as a member of the cabinet. Subsequently I expressed the desire that my resignation should be acted upon at once, and to that wish the prime minister has now assented.

"In conclusion, not intending and not considering it proper at this time to enter into a discussion of the merits of the matter which has caused the difference between myself and my leader, I have only to add my regret that circumstances have compelled the severance of my official relations with my leader and with my colleagues, with whom my relations have always been of the most harmonious and pleasant character and with whom upon other questions I am in entire accord. The circumstances, however, in my judgment, made my duty perfectly clear and it does not seem possible for me properly to consider anything excepting the principles which are involved."

OTHER SPEECHES.

Mr. Foster followed and intimated that an effort had been made for some time to squeeze Mr. Sifton out of the cabinet, and with respect to the autonomy bill he was treated as

Blair was in the G. T. P. matter. The measure was prepared behind his back.

W. F. McLean, Conservative, gloried in Sifton's resignation, and congratulated that gentleman on the stand he had taken.

Leighton McCarthy, Independent Liberal, announced his full sympathy with Sifton's action.

Dr. Sproule, Conservative, suggested that the government drop the educational clause of the bill.

Col. Sam Hughes took the same ground and predicted disaster to the west if the bill passed.

Mr. Guthrie, Liberal, was prepared to vote for the bill as it stood.

After a denial by Sir Wilfrid Laurier that he had been trying to get rid of Sifton, the discussion closed.

PROMINENT EDUCATIONALIST.

James Little Well Known Citizen
of Truro Died This Morning.

(Special to Daily Herald.)

Truro, N. S., March 2.—James Little, who for 35 years had been principal of the Model School here, died this morning after two years illness. His wife died Dec. 1903, and he has been ill ever since. Recently he presented a pipe organ to the First Presbyterian church in memory of his late wife.

Mr. Little was born at Hopewell, N. S., 1834, but his family removed to Truro where he was educated.

He was regarded as an authority on educational matters. He leaves no children.

BETTER THAN LAST YEAR.

Dominion Coal Co.'s Output Increased 100,000 Tons.

(Special to Daily Herald.)

Montreal, March 2.—At the annual meeting of the Dominion Coal Company today, President James Ross said that the output for the present year would amount to 100,000 tons more than last year's output, and had all been sold. The company, he added, had bright prospects.

BOASTFUL YANKEE.

Says U. S. is Bound to Have Canada's Trade if Not Then They'll Seize this Country.

(Special to Daily Herald.)

Hamilton, Ont., March 2.—At the Canadian Club banquet last night V. J. Minard of Boston, said the United States was determined to have the trade of Canada.

If the Americans could not get the trade they would seize Canada when Britain's hands were tied elsewhere.

NICHOLAS--WOOD.

Toronto Editor Wedded to a Wealthy Senator's Daughter.

(Special to Daily Herald.)

Sackville, N. B., March 2.—Miss Dora Wood, daughter of Senator Wood, was married this afternoon to E. M. Nicholas, associate editor of the Toronto Daily World. Rev. George Steele officiated, and many handsome presents were received.

HOW'S THIS.

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WAR AND STRIKE.

The Russians Claim Further
Success Against the
Japs.CZAR'S DOMINIONS SEETHING WITH
STRIKES AND REVOLUTION.Said Bombs Will be Used Against
the Military.

(Special to the Daily Herald.)

Sakhetun, Manchuria, Mar. 2.—There is a stubborn fight on the left wing.

The Cossacks who attacked the Japanese villages have been repulsed.

The Russians maintain their position by reason of the intervention of a relief column, and attacked the Japanese from the west after the passes were occupied.

The column was hard pressed and the Japanese suffered great losses.

Advanced detachments in the neighborhood of Ubeupeusa were attacked thrice during the night, but repulsed the Japanese onslaughts.

The westward column made a night attack. Some assaults were repulsed at nine p. m.

The Russian advance guard vacated the outward fort is being destroyed, but kept their artillery, and retired to better fortifications.

The Japanese attacked Nanshanpu in the Khaidan district, at six a. m., but were repulsed.

Moscow, March 2.—The strike area in this city and suburbs is extending. 60,000 men are out.

St. Petersburg, March 2.—General Stoessel was received in audience by Emperor Nicholas today, who invited the general to luncheon.

The police apparently do not know what to expect. Their general fear is the outcome of knowledge based on the discovery at Wirbailton, Russian Poland, of a quantity of bombs, many boxes of which have been smuggled into Russia. It is expected that the demonstrations will be backed by the use of bombs against the troops.

The strike movement has assumed active form at Ekaterinoslav, Don Cossa, and the miners at Donetsk coal mines numbering 20,000 threaten to walk out Monday.

London, March 2.—The Times' Russian correspondent telegraphs that he hears that a war council will be held at St. Petersburg about March 5, to decide whether General Kuropatkin shall be recalled, and adds that Grand Duke Nicholas and General Kragomiroff, the hero of the Russo-Turkish war are mentioned as probable successors.

St. Petersburg, March 2.—Prince Sviatopolk Mirsky, former minister of the interior, is seriously ill at Khardhoff.

St. Petersburg, March 2.—The strike situation throughout Russia has been rendered distinctly more critical.

St. Petersburg workmen yesterday were confronting the government again on the necessity of yielding everything and the hope of a permanent settlement of the strike here and elsewhere is dashed to the ground.

The worst feature of the situation is that the authorities are now convinced that the leaders of the workmen, in pursuance of a deep, political plan, managed by a shrewd hidden agency, are deliberately trying to prevent a settlement.

The authorities seem at their wits' end.

Meantime rumors are again afloat that the action of yesterday is preliminary to a big demonstration Saturday.

Eugansizz, Poland, March 1.—The situation is intense.

Four thousand men have struck at the Hartmann works, and a general strike of 20,000 miners at Donetsk coal fields is expected March 6.

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