

A BUSINESS SESSION.

Government Pushing Forward Rapidly the Work of Parliament.

THE TRIUMPH OF THE LIBERALS IN THE SENATE.

Bourassa's Hostility to the Motherland.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS INTERESTING AND INSTRUCTIVE.

(Special Correspondence to the Herald).

Ottawa, Feb. 28.—The second week of the session ends with a record of progress practically unprecedented. Ever since the change of government, the opposition have permitted very little business to be done during the first two or three weeks, but this year they have been disposed to change their tactics. They could not very well have done otherwise. Immediately after the short debate on the address had closed, Mr. Fielding laid the estimates for the year on the table of the House, and if these had not been taken up in a business-like way the Conservatives would have had to answer for an inexcusable waste of time. During the past week a large number of items were put through, although on Tuesday night the Opposition showed their teeth in a very decided way over the estimates of the agriculture department.

The course of the Opposition on Tuesday night was clearly due to the determination to roast the Minister of Agriculture. During the past few years it seems to have become a settled thing that at some period during the session each Minister is made to pass through this fiery ordeal. Such a proceeding does not help the dignity of Parliament; but the Tories appear to think that the discipline is necessary in order that each head of a department may be made to realize he is alive. The lot of a Minister is not such an easy one that this course is

really necessary in order to keep him in a proper condition of humility before his opponents, but the Opposition seem to think it is.

The really important event since my last letter was the triumph of the Liberals in the Senate. When the present Government succeeded to power the Upper House had an overwhelming majority of Conservatives, and every one is familiar with the means which were taken in the Senate to block the will of the Commons in matters of important legislation. The throwing out of the measure providing for the extension of the Intercolonial and the Redistribution Bill, were striking instances of the way in which the partisan majority was turned to account. At one time it looked as if the new Government would be unable to do anything to which the Conservative Senators might not take exception, but that day has passed. One by one Liberals have taken the place of Conservatives, until this year when the issue arose as to the control of standing committees in the Senate the Government party were found to be in the majority.

The loss of this last vantage ground was not allowed to take place without a last vigorous struggle. Mr. Scott, as the government leader, spoke very candidly about the political aspects of the matter, intimating that since confederation the Liberals had not been allowed to have a chairman of a single committee in the senate, and that now he thought the time had come for a change. The Liberals were now in a majority, and he held that they ought to have control of the committees. It was pathetic to hear Sir Mackenzie Bowell and Mr. Ferguson deplore the introduction of the partisan view, and declaim in favor of an independent and judicial senate. They contented themselves, however, with this protest, and for the first time in the history of the Dominion, Liberals have been placed at the head of the standing committees of the senate.

Monday was taken up wholly with a discussion on the subject of reciprocity. Mr. John Charlton brought up the question, and spoke at considerable length. He took occasion to point out the very unreasonable attitude of the United States in relation to trade with Canada, characterizing the action of that country as narrow and selfish. He quoted from the official trade returns to show that our imports from our neighbors were enormously greater than our exports to them, and that the situation in that regard is

steadily growing worse. His notion of a remedy was not, however, so clear as his diagnosis of the trouble. As was pointed out by some of the members, without regard to partisan considerations, we cannot help it on this side if the Americans are disposed to be hoggyback.

Moreover, a careful analysis of our purchases from the United States shows that three fourths of all we buy consists of articles which England cannot supply. For example, Great Britain cannot sell us raw cotton, hard coal, tobacco, oranges, or a score of other things which we now get from the United States. Nearly all these articles are on the free list. Contiguity enables our neighbors to sell us largely of the coarser manufactures of iron and steel, such as steel rails; but if all goes well these things will be produced in Canada after this year. In fact, the production of steel rails has already begun at Sault Ste Marie, and under the prevailing tariff and bounty system it will not be to the interest of purchasers to go outside of the country. The debate was not ended on Monday night, and when the subject next comes up the Finance Minister will have the floor.

Reference was not made last week, owing to the lack of space, to Mr. Bourassa's annual tirade against the manner in which Canada is treated by Great Britain. His motion on the face of it referred only to a call for the papers relating to the Clayton-Bulwer treaty; but with this text he roamed over his favourite ground of attack upon the general subject of Imperial policy. He incidentally hinted at his views about the South African war, and revealed an unmistakable tinge of hostility to the Motherland. Mr. Bourassa does this very largely for the sake of notoriety; but the novelty of the thing has worn off and very few people take him seriously. He does not speak for any party, and he has no following.

The reports of all the Departments have been laid on the table of the House, which is a record that has not been equalled before. This has been due to the settled policy of the Government to afford the Opposition no excuse whatever for the blocking of public business after Parliament meets on the ground that official information is lacking. Some of these reports afford interesting and instructive reading. That of the Interior Department shows that the receipts of last year from the sale of Dominion lands was \$370,416 greater than last year, which bears out the view that immigration into

(Continued on Second Page.)

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DEVER BROS.

P. S.—Fownes' Kid Gloves for Easter have arrived.

OUR GREAT BARGAIN SALE IS STILL GOING ON

and will continue until Saturday, 1st March, inclusive. It will pay you to buy now and save money. Big reductions from regular prices off hundreds of Pairs of Rubber and Leather Footwear, which we bought recently at much below market rates. 20 to 50 per cent discount off a large part of our Winter Goods, including all our Felt Footwear and warm Lined Footwear, both of Rubber and Leather goods, Oil Tanned and Moosehide Footwear, Snowshoes, etc. Also off about all our Bankrupt Stock still on hand.

Here are some Sample Prices of our Bargains.

GENT'S BARGAINS.

Gent's Rubbers, broken sizes, former prices 75c. to 90c., reduced to 60c.; Gent's Rubbers, Wool Lined, broken sizes, usual price 85c., only 60c.; Gent's Rubbers, first quality, special lot, sizes, 6 to 11, factory price, 90c., only 65c.; Gent's 1 Buckle Overboots, Wool Lined, broken sizes, factory price, \$1.55, reduced to \$1.10; Gent's 2 Buckle Snow Excluder Overboots, worth \$2, marked down to \$1.50; Gent's 3 Buckle Snow Excluders, worth \$2.65 and \$2.75, reduced to \$2; Lumberman's 1 Buckle Rubbers, sizes, 10, 11 and 12, regular price, \$1.25, only 80c.; Lumberman's 2 Buckle Rubbers, sizes, 11 and 12 only, regular price, \$1.90, only \$1; Lumberman's 1 Buckle Rubbers, Snow Excluders, warm lined, sizes, 11 and 12 only, regular price, \$2, reduced to \$1.25; Lumberman's 2 Buckle Rubbers, sizes, 9 to 11, regular price, \$2.10, only \$1.50; Men's Oil Tan Moccasins, regular price, 60c., now 45c.; Men's Oil Tan Shoe Packs, black and tan color, regular price, \$1.25, now 95c.; one lot Gent's Moosehide Moccasins, size, 7 only, marked down to 70c.; Gent's Coarse Snowshoes, former price, \$2, reduced to \$1.50; Gent's Dongola Kid Lace Boots, special lots and remnants, broken sizes, regular prices, \$2 to \$2.50, now only \$1.50; Gent's Dongola Kid Elastic Side Boots, special lot, regular price, \$2.50, now \$1.75; Gent's Dongola Kid Oxford Tie Shoes, remnants, sizes, 9, 9½ and 10, regular prices, \$1.50 to \$2.50, reduced to 90c.; Gent's Dongola Kid Slippers, broken sizes, regular prices, \$1.25 to \$2.25, reduced to 95c.; Gent's Velvet Embroidered Slippers, remnants, sizes 6 and 10 only, former prices, 90c. and \$1, now 50.

BOYS' BARGAINS.

One lot Boys' Rubbers, sizes 1 to 4, best quality, factory price, 80c., only 35c.; Boys' Black Oil Tan Shoe Packs, former price, \$1, reduced to 75c.; one lot Boys' Split Leather Lace Boots, sizes, 3, 4 and 5, only 75c.; one lot Boys' Fine Buff Lace Boots, sizes, 2, 4 and 5, only \$1.

YOUTHS' BARGAINS.

A lot of Youths' Rubbers, first quality, sizes, 9 to 12, factory price, 60c., reduced to 40c.; one lot Youths' Oil Tan Shoe Packs, only 55c.; Youths' Split Foxed or Grain Leather Lace Boots, sizes, 11, 12 and 13, special lots, former prices, 90c. and \$1.15, reduced to 70c.; one lot Youths' Fine Buff Laced Boots, only 85c.

Children's Bargains.

Child's Rubbers, factory prices 35c. and 40c., only 25c. Child's Felt Button Overboots, and 2 Buckle Manitoba Overboots, broken sizes, regular prices \$1.25 to \$1.40, reduced to 60c. Child's Glove Grain Button Boots, sizes 8, 9 and 10, regular price 90c., only 65c.

Shoe Dressing Bargains.

Tan and Chocolate Dressings, our entire stock, consisting of Whittemore's and Packard's standard makes, regular price 25c., reduced to 15c. Tan and Chocolate Paste in tins, Packard's make, regular price 10c., reduced to 5c.

We have also many other bargains, which want of space prevents our quoting prices of in this list.

Remember, that those who come first will get the best choice. Goods cheerfully exchanged or money refunded, if they do not suit.

LADIES' BARGAINS.

Ladies' Rubbers, first quality, special lots, broken sizes, factory prices, 55c. and 58c., only 35c. One lot Ladies' Storm Rubbers, first quality, regular factory price, 60c., only 45c. Ladies' Wool Lined Rubbers, worth 60c., now only 45c. One lot Ladies' Storm Wool Lined Rubbers, first quality, broken sizes, factory price, 80c., only 50c. Ladies' Felt Button Overboots, worth \$1.70, marked down to \$1.25. Ladies' Fine Jersey Cloth Overboots, with two straps and one buckle, former prices \$2 and \$2.25, marked to \$1.50. Ladies' Cardigan Overshoes, (Rubbers with Stockings attached), sizes 2½ and 3 only, regular price \$1.35, reduced to 60c. Ladies' Skating Boots, warm lined, broken sizes, regular price \$1.50, now \$1.20. Ladies' Tan and Chocolate colored Skating Boots, warm lined, broken sizes, former prices \$1.90 and \$2.25, reduced to \$1.25. Ladies' Dongola Kid Skating Boots, warm lined, former price \$1.70, reduced to \$1.35. Ladies' Box Calf Skating Boots, warm lined, former price \$2.25, marked down to \$1.75. Ladies' 6 Button Cloth Gaiters, former price 20c., reduced to 10c. Ladies' Tan and Chocolate 6 and 7 Button Gaiters, former prices 50c. to \$1.10, your choice for 15c. Ladies' High Cut Cloth Gaiters, former price 40c., now 30c. Ladies' Leather Slippers, sizes 3, 4 and 5, former price 45c., reduced to 30c. Ladies' Colored Satin Slippers, sizes 2, 3½, 4, 4½ and 5, former price \$3, reduced to 75c. Ladies' Dongola Kid Lace Boots, special lots, sizes 2½, 3, 3½, 4, 4½ and 8, usual price \$1.25 to \$1.35, only \$1. Ladies' Dongola Kid Button Boots, special lots, regular price \$1.25, only \$1.

MISSSES' BARGAINS.

Misses' Rubbers, special lots, broken sizes, factory prices 40c. and 45c., only 25c. Misses' Waterproof Cloth and Felt Button Overboots, factory prices \$1.40 or more, only 75c. Misses' Dongola Kid Button Boots, special lot, regular price \$1.25, only \$1.

Terms
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Store closes at 6 p. m. every evening except Saturdays.