

the federal legislature of the United States, and in the British Parliament. We feel that in this respect we have at least done something. I have been speaking to-day especially in behalf of the people of Canada who are suffering under this high cost of living and these immense profits that are being reaped by those who are in business. While I regret that I have had to take up so much of the time of the House yet I am not ashamed of what I have done because of the pressing importance of the matters with which I have dealt.

At six o'clock the House took recess.

### After Recess.

The House resumed at eight o'clock.

Mr. HENRI E. LAVIGUEUR (Quebec County): Mr. Speaker, I wish first of all to congratulate the mover and seconder of the Address in reply to the speech from the Throne upon the admirable manner in which they acquitted themselves of the duty entrusted to them and the fine speeches to which they gave utterance. I regret, however, that the practice of Parliament in having one of those speeches delivered in the French language was departed from. Was it not possible, Mr. Speaker, to find at least one hon. gentleman among the supporters of the Government capable of moving or seconding the Address in one of the official languages of this country? Surely on the occasion of such an important session as the present, the Government should have made it a point to see that both languages were used.

Since the last session of Parliament great events have happened in the Dominion. One of the most striking was that, by the privilege of His Majesty the King, we have had the honour of a visit from His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales who, during his short stay so far in this country, has won the admiration and the affection of the people of Canada. As soon as it was officially announced that Canada was to be favoured with a visit from His Royal Highness, Quebec, through its mayor and council, took occasion to request that the Prince should come to the old fortress city. This great privilege was granted to us and we had the honour of having the Prince of Wales in our midst for four days. The civic welcome to the Prince by Quebec was most noteworthy and the sympathetic and democratic demeanour of His Royal Highness aroused the admiration of all. On the occasion of his visit the Prince charmed

[Mr. W. F. Maclean.]

and delighted the French population of Quebec province and especially the inhabitants of the Ancient Capital, by the felicitous manner in which he responded in good French to the welcome accorded to him.

In complying with the request of the citizens to inaugurate the Quebec Bridge, His Royal Highness participated in one of the greatest events that ever has occurred in Quebec and he won once more the admiration of our people by the delicate manner in which he responded again in perfect French to the address of our citizens.

The calling of the present session on the first of September last was somewhat of a surprise to a good many hon. members. Although we have been told that it may be a short session, it is one of the most momentous that has been held since Confederation by reason of the importance of the treaties submitted to the House for ratification or approval. It is to be regretted that members did not have the opportunity of making themselves acquainted with the terms of the Peace Treaty until the session itself began, and that the French translation was not placed in the hands of the French members until forty-eight hours thereafter. We were told that this document had to be approved by this Parliament within two or three days, and that the Peace Treaty must be accepted in the form in which it was submitted as it had been so signed by His Majesty. There was a general desire on the part of members of the House, especially hon. gentlemen composing the Opposition, to express their views on this important document, but in view of the limited time accorded, many members on this side had to renounce that intention. However, I wish to congratulate the hon. member for Queen's and Shelburne (Mr. Fielding) and the hon. member for Kamouraska (Mr. Ernest Lapointe) upon the amendment which they presented to the House. True, that amendment was defeated but it will find a place in the annals of Parliament, epitomizing as it does our views on the great constitutional question involved.

Very important speeches were also delivered on both sides of the House by the hon. the President of the Privy Council, the hon. the Minister of Justice and by the hon. members for Kamouraska, Shelburne and Queen's, and Maisonneuve, and others who brought up arguments of great importance. I notice however that the speeches delivered by the President of the Privy Council and the Honourable the Minister of Justice, who