

Pursuant to the Order of the Day, the Senate resumed the adjourned Debate on the Honourable Mr. Owens's motion, viz. :—

That the following Address be presented to His Excellency, the Governor General, to offer the respectful thanks of this House to His Excellency for the gracious Speech he has been pleased to make to both Houses of Parliament ; namely:—

To His Excellency the Right Honourable Sir John Campbell Hamilton-Gordon, Earl of Aberdeen ; Viscount Formartine, Baron Haddo, Methlic, Tarves and Kellie, in the Peerage of Scotland ; Viscount Gordon of Aberdeen, County of Aberdeen, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom ; Baronet of Nova Scotia ; Knight Grand Cross of Our Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, &c., &c., Governor General of Canada.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY :—

We, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Senate of Canada in Parliament assembled, humbly thank Your Excellency for your gracious Speech at the opening of this Session.

We also thank Your Excellency for informing us that, in accordance with the announcement made during the last Session, Parliament has been summoned somewhat in advance of the usual period.

We heartily share Your Excellency's feeling that the bountiful harvest with which Canada has been blessed is a cause for the deepest thankfulness to the Giver of all good.

We rejoice that Your Excellency is able to congratulate us upon the evidence of increased activity in the various branches of commerce and industry.

We are gratified to hear that several such indications have come under your personal observation during a tour made recently in the North-west Territories and British Columbia, and that, in particular, Your Excellency noticed the extension of mining enterprise in British Columbia, where the vast mineral resources are in certain localities being now developed and utilized upon something like an adequate scale.

It affords us much pleasure to hear that a special feature of the same tour consisted in the opportunities obtained for visiting a number of the Indian Reservations and also the Indian Industrial Schools. We are glad to learn that on the former Your Excellency was received with hearty demonstrations of loyalty and good-will, while in connection with the latter the proofs of proficiency and intelligence on the part of the children were highly encouraging.

We are glad to be informed that, as to the work of the Indian Department as a whole, the manner in which it is directed and administered appears to be very satisfactory.

We agree with Your Excellency that a reference to these topics would be incomplete without an allusion to the valuable services of the North-West Mounted Police, and we respectfully note Your Excellency's opinion that that force may justly be regarded by Canadians generally as indispensable, under present conditions, to the well-being of those extensive and promising portions of the Dominion in which it is stationed.

We thank Your Excellency for the intimation that immediately after the prorogation of Parliament Your Excellency's Government communicated through the Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba with the Government of that province, in order to ascertain upon what lines the local authorities of Manitoba would be prepared to promote amendments to the Acts respecting education in schools in that province, and whether any arrangement was possible with the Manitoba Government which would render action by the Federal Parliament in this connection unnecessary. We receive with a deep sense of its importance Your Excellency's statement that you regret to say that the advisers of the Lieutenant-Governor have declined to entertain favourably these suggestions, thereby rendering it necessary for Your Excellency's Government, in pursuance of its declared