

purpose of debating it but rather for that of expressing concurrence. In addition to the matter of the convenience of hon. members there is the point that remembrance day is a national and statutory holiday, and one dear to the hearts of a large number of our people. In my view it is most fitting that the house should adjourn for the purpose of observing remembrance day.

Motion agreed to.

ACTING DEPUTY SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the house that I have appointed J. Laundry to be acting deputy sergeant-at-arms during the present session.

On motion of Mr. Mackenzie King the house adjourned at 3.55 p.m.

Friday, November 8, 1940.

The house met at three o'clock.

WAR MATERIALS

PRESS REPORT AS TO ASSISTANCE BY THE UNITED STATES IN EMPIRE WAR EFFORT

On the orders of the day:

Hon. R. B. HANSON (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I desire to make a brief statement and to base thereon a question to the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King). I regret exceedingly that the matter was brought to my attention so late that I could not apprise him of the subject matter, and if that is embarrassing or inconvenient I should not expect an immediate answer.

It is reported to me by the press that the president of the United States has stated that Great Britain and Canada will get one-half of the flying fortresses and other fighting planes, arms and munitions produced in the United States. I would ask the Prime Minister if this report has come to his attention, and if so, has he any statement to make on behalf of the government with respect to it?

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): May I say to my hon. friend that what he has just read is the first intimation I have had of any such report.

WATER DIVERSION

OGOKI AND KENOGAMI RIVERS—COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN UNITED STATES AND CANADIAN GOVERNMENTS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. R. MacNICOL (Davenport): Before the orders of the day are called, may I ask

the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) if an agreement has been made with the United States with reference to the diversion of certain rivers in northern Ontario, namely the Ogoki and the Kenogami; and if so, has the agreement been tabled; and if not, is he in a position to advise us when it will be?

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): I shall be glad to lay on the table on Tuesday the communications recently exchanged between the United States and Canada as related to the development of power on the international rapids section of the St. Lawrence, and as respects the diversion of the Ogoki and other waters of the north into lake Superior. There has been an exchange of communications on the subject.

GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SPEECH

ADDRESS IN REPLY, MOVED BY MR. BROOKE CLAXTON AND SECONDED BY MR. RENÉ JUTRAS

The house proceeded to the consideration of the speech delivered by His Excellency the Governor General at the opening of the session.

Mr. BROOKE CLAXTON (St. Lawrence-St. George) moved:

That the following address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General of Canada:

To His Excellency the Right Honourable Earl of Athlone, Knight of Our Most Noble Order of the Garter, a member of Our Most Honourable Privy Council, Knight Grand Cross of Our Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Grand Master of Our Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor General and Commander in Chief of Our Dominion of Canada.

May it Please Your Excellency:

We, His Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the House of Commons of Canada, in parliament assembled, beg leave to offer our humble thanks to Your Excellency for the gracious Speech which Your Excellency has addressed to both houses of parliament.

He said: Mr. Speaker, in rising to present this motion I realize that a heavy responsibility rests on me at this momentous time.

I must first acknowledge the honour paid to the constituency of St. Lawrence-St. George. The honour recognizes the importance of the division in the life of Canada. Everyone in this house is already familiar with its many interests and advantages. The division is a true reflection of the complex character of Canadian life. Although its citizens are predominantly of English or French descent, it is interesting to note that during the national registration one office registered people speaking no less than twenty-two languages.