

and which are now in progress, Canadian ports will control a much larger share of the traffic of the West.

Measures will be introduced to renew and amend the existing banking laws, to regulate the rate of interest payable upon judgments recovered in courts of law, to provide for the taking of the next decennial census, for the better arrangement of the electoral districts, to amend the Criminal Code and the laws relating to other important subjects.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons :

The public accounts will be laid before you, and also the estimates for the coming year, which have been prepared with due regard to economy and the rapid growth of the Dominion.

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate :

Gentlemen of the House of Commons :

I commend to your consideration the subjects I have mentioned, confiding in your patriotism and judgment.

The PRIME MINISTER (Sir Wilfrid Laurier) moved :

That the speech of His Excellency the Governor General, to both Houses of Parliament, be taken into consideration on to-morrow.

Mr. BOURASSA. Mr. Speaker, as the discussion on the speech from the Throne is to begin to-morrow, and, of course, as that discussion is going to involve many considerations, I would like to ask, although, perhaps, this course is rather unusual, if it is the intention of the Government to lay on the Table of the House the whole of the correspondence that has been exchanged, since last session, between the British government and the government of Canada, or His Excellency the Governor General, in relation to the participation of Canada in the Transvaal war.

The PRIME MINISTER. Mr. Speaker, my hon. friend (Mr. Bourassa) is aware that it is not in accordance with the practice of the House to lay on the Table any documents before the address has been voted upon. But, on this occasion, it seems to me, that the request of my hon. friend is a reasonable one, and that it would be conducive to the better discussion of the speech of His Excellency the Governor General if the correspondence were laid on the Table of the House. But, if we do this I must ask the House to allow a change to be made in the motion and to substitute Monday for to-morrow, because it would not be possible to have the correspondence in shape for to-morrow afternoon. If agreeable to my hon. friend (Sir Charles Tupper), I will undertake to have the papers laid on the Table of the House on Monday, and, probably, on Satur-

day morning, or to-morrow evening, I will be happy to transmit a private copy of the same to my hon. friend for his own information.

Motion, as amended, agreed to.

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEES.

The PRIME MINISTER (Sir Wilfrid Laurier) moved :

That Select Standing Committees of this House for the present session be appointed for the following purposes:—1. On Privileges and Elections.—2. On Expiring Laws.—3. On Railways, Canals and Telegraph Lines.—4. On Miscellaneous Private Bills.—5. On Standing Orders.—6. On Printing.—7. On Public Accounts.—8. On Banking and Commerce.—9. On Agriculture and Colonization,—which said committees shall severally be empowered to examine and inquire into all such matters and things as may be referred to them by the House; and to report from time to time their observations and opinions thereon; with power to send for persons, papers and records.

Motion agreed to.

REPORT.

Report of the Joint Librarians of Parliament.—(Mr. Speaker.)

The PRIME MINISTER (Sir Wilfrid Laurier) moved the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to, and the House adjourned at 3.55 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MONDAY, February 5, 1900.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

PRAYERS.

OFFICIAL DEBATES OF THE HOUSE.

The PRIME MINISTER (Sir Wilfrid Laurier) moved :

That a select committee be appointed to supervise the official report of the debates of this House during the present session, with power to report from time to time, to be composed of Messrs. Fortin, Bergeron, Champagne, Charlton, Craig, Davin, Earle, Ellis, Haley, LaRivière, Monet, Richardson, Sriver, Somerville and Taylor.

He said: This is the same committee as last year, with the exception of Mr. Fortin, who takes the place of Mr. Beausoleil.

Motion agreed to.