

activities. We have united in our efforts to make Canada great in war, and we shall also unite to make it great in peace. This common objective cannot be attained without the full cooperation of every citizen of this country. I pray God, who has granted us victory and peace, to guide us in our endeavours to preserve that peace in both international and national fields.

Mr. JOHN BRACKEN (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, it is not expected of me that I should continue the debate at this time, but before moving its adjournment I should like the privilege of making two or three brief observations.

It is a very great pleasure in my first words to have the opportunity of complimenting the mover (Mr. Benidickson) and the seconder (Mr. Langlois) of the address to be presented to His Excellency. Each of these hon. gentlemen is to be commended upon the manner in which he has discharged his responsibility, and I am happy to be the first to offer my congratulations. It has been my privilege to know the mover of the motion since his early days at the university of my adopted province, and from his experience and training I feel sure he will prove to be a useful and valuable member of this house. It has not been my privilege to know the seconder of the motion, but judging from his performance to-day and from his experience while in uniform I feel that he too will be able to make a valuable and constructive contribution to our work.

With much of what these hon. gentlemen have had to say there will be general agreement. With some portions of their remarks it is perhaps scarcely to be expected that those who see the government from a different angle will be in entire agreement. If each of the speakers has shown unusual zeal in the task of discovering virtues in the government and in the art of keeping a blind eye turned towards its errors, I am sure I shall not wish to be the first to censure them for what they have done. It will be for those who follow to fill in the omissions and to shed any necessary light on the places they have not seen fit to enter.

Yesterday, Mr. Speaker, it was my privilege to extend to you my compliments, before you were elected to your present post. To-day on behalf of those sitting in this section of the house I wish to welcome you to your new work and to wish for you the same high measure of success which characterized the work of your predecessors.

With respect to the plans of the government as announced in the speech from the throne

[Mr. Langlois.]

and its administrative record over recent years, and with respect to the state of the public welfare generally, I propose to reserve such comments as I wish to make until the next sitting of the house. Therefore I move the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to and debate adjourned.

On motion of Mr. Mackenzie King the house adjourned at 5.00 p.m.

Monday, September 10, 1945.

The house met at three o'clock.

PRIVILEGE—MR. COLDWELL

REFUSAL OF ACCESS TO PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS BY CITIZENS SEEKING TO INTERVIEW MEMBERS

Mr. M. J. COLDWELL (Rosetown-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, I rise to refer to a matter affecting the privileges of parliament and of myself as a member of parliament. This morning, citizens who sought to interview members of parliament were stopped outside the entrances to this building—not within the precincts of the building, but on the outside near the doors. Among those who were stopped were the premier of Saskatchewan and a member of the legislative assembly, who were required to show some evidence that members of parliament wished to see them. I want to refer this to you, Mr. Speaker, as custodian of the rights of members of this house, because I believe that inquiry should be made and we should be informed under what authority and by whose direction this very extraordinary procedure was followed.

Mr. SPEAKER: I must inform the hon. member that this is the first time I have heard about the matter. I will confer with the Clerk of the House, and the Sergeant at Arms, whereupon I shall be pleased to give an answer to the hon. member.

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): May I say a word as well in reply to my hon. friend? I am obliged to him for bringing up this matter. It is the first intimation I have had that anything of the kind had occurred, and I shall be happy to join with his Honour the Speaker in having the matter carefully looked into.

Mr. COLDWELL: Thank you.

DIVORCE

JURISDICTION OF COURTS IN PROVINCE OF MARRIED WOMAN'S DOMICILE

Mr. GEORGE BLACK (Yukon) moved for leave to introduce bill No. 2, to amend the Divorce Jurisdiction Act, 1930.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.