

to a provision in this resolution which I think requires very careful consideration and very strong reasons to be given for its adoption. That is section 4. Section 4 really suspends the Habeas Corpus Act. It does not say that in words, but that is its effect. It takes away, with regard to persons who may come under its provisions, the right of every man to appeal to the courts, and to have those who are depriving him of his liberty compelled to show before a court or a judge the reason why he is being deprived of his liberty and is being kept in prison. That is a pretty serious enactment to make, because there is no measure which English people regard with greater appreciation and of which they are more jealous and have been for centuries than the Habeas Corpus Act; and I think that, before that Act is suspended and the liberty of the subject is left entirely in the hands of the minister for the time being, very strong reasons ought to be shown for it. The section reads as follows:

That compensation shall be made for property permanently appropriated under any enacted legislation, order or regulation; that ships or vessels used or moved, or goods, wares or merchandise dealt with contrary to order or regulation, may be seized and shall be liable to forfeiture; that penalties may be imposed for violations of such legislation; that no person held for deportation or under arrest or detention as an alien enemy or upon suspicion, or to prevent his departure from Canada, shall be released upon bail or otherwise discharged or tried without the consent of the Minister of Justice, and that every order and warrant made or issued by any minister under such legislation, or Order in Council, or regulation thereunder, shall be conclusive evidence—

Not prima facie evidence, but conclusive evidence.

—of all statements and matters therein made or contained, and no court or judge shall inquire into or make any order in respect thereto.

That resolution strikes at the dearest liberties of a British subject. It may be that the occasion has arisen which demands such extraordinary legislation. I think it will be incumbent upon my hon. friend to show the committee that such occasion has arisen, and that in the interests of Canada and of the Empire this extraordinary enactment should be made. I desire only at present to call the attention of the Minister of Justice to the matter, and no doubt my hon. friend will give some attention to this clause before it comes before the committee for consideration.

[Mr. Pugsley.]

Mr. DOHERTY: It is proposed that, after the Bill has had its second reading, it shall be referred to a special committee for careful consideration of each one of its dispositions. An opportunity will in that way be afforded, before it comes to the final judgment of the House, very fully to consider the effect of its dispositions and the reasons that lie behind them. I realize fully the gravity of the disposition which my hon. friend has read, and I may say that it is only after giving it very serious consideration that we have put it forward. But still we shall be glad to have the benefit of its further consideration by a special committee.

Motion agreed to, resolution considered in committee, reported, and concurred in.

Mr. DOHERTY thereupon moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 2, to confer certain powers upon the Governor in Council and to amend the Immigration Act.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the first time.

On motion of Sir Robert Borden, the House adjourned at 5.45 p.m.

Thursday, August 20, 1914.

The House met at Three o'clock, the Speaker in the Chair.

#### THE EUROPEAN WAR.

##### THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S TERM OF OFFICE EXTENDED.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I desire to make the following announcement to the House:

In view of the urgent conditions confronting Canada, in common with the rest of the Empire, by reason of the outbreak of war, the Government consider it highly important that His Royal Highness Field Marshall the Duke of Connaught should continue to give to Canada the benefit of his services as Governor General. His knowledge of conditions in Canada and his wide experience in public and military affairs render his services especially valuable at this juncture. It has accordingly been arranged, at the request of the Canadian Government, with the full approval of His Majesty the King and the Imperial Government, that His Royal Highness's term of office shall be indefinitely extended during the continuance of the war. His Royal