

of the second instalment of evidence taken before Mr. Justice Cassels? The first instalment of that evidence was received early in October last in printed form. The resolution passed by this House last session provided that the evidence should be printed from day to day for the use of the members, but we have not received a second instalment of the evidence. I have made inquiry of the proper officers, but I cannot obtain any very satisfactory explanation except that the delay is due to some difficulty in the Printing Bureau. I would like to know when it is anticipated the balance of the evidence will be placed before the House in printed form.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. I am informed that the report of Mr. Justice Cassels has not yet been received, but is expected either to-morrow or the day after. I have this information only at second-hand, but I believe it can be relied upon. I shall have to make inquiries before I can satisfy my hon. friend as to why the balance of the evidence has not been printed. I understand that no evidence has been printed since the early part of October. It so happened that in October we were all so busy that we would not have had time to read that evidence, but that busy time is now over and we will be able to read it.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. That busy time was over some weeks ago. When do the government propose to lay on the table of the House the treaties of which we have had some notice through the public press? Have those treaties been signed and will they be presented at an early date?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. All treaties which have been signed, except the last treaty, were laid before the House last session, I think in July. The last treaty which has been signed, relating to the international waters, will be laid before the House as soon as we have received an official copy.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. Only one treaty has been signed recently?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. Only one, with regard to the boundary waters.

Motion agreed to, and House adjourned at 3.40 p.m.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS

THURSDAY, January 21, 1909.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

Mr. SPEAKER. I have the honour to inform the House that I have received a communication from the secretary of His

Mr. R. L. BORDEN.

Excellency the Governor General, as follows:

Ottawa, January 20, 1909.

Sir,—I have the honour to inform you that His Excellency the Governor General will proceed to the Senate Chamber to formally open the session of the Dominion Parliament on Thursday the 21st instant at three o'clock p.m.

I have the honour to be, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,

J. HANBURY-WILLIAMS, Col.,  
Governor General's Secretary.

The Honourable

The Speaker of the House of Commons.

A message was delivered by Captain Ernest J. Chambers, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, as follows:

Mr. Speaker, His Excellency the Governor General desires the immediate attendance of your honourable House in the Chamber of the honourable the Senate.

Accordingly the House went up to the Senate Chamber.

Then the Hon. CHARLES MARCIL, Speaker-elect, said:

May it please Your Excellency:

The House of Commons has elected me their Speaker though I am but little able to fulfil the important duties thus assigned to me. If, in the performance of those duties, I should at any time fall into error, I pray that the fault may be imputed to me, and not to the Commons, whose servant I am, and who, through me, the better to enable them to discharge their duty to their King and country, humbly claim all their undoubted rights and privileges, especially that they may have freedom of speech in their debates, access to your Excellency's person at all seasonable times, and that their proceedings may receive from Your Excellency the most favourable consideration.

The Hon. the Speaker of the Senate then said:

Mr. Speaker, I am commanded by His Excellency the Governor General to declare to you that he freely confides in the duty and attachment of the House of Commons to His Majesty's person and government, and, not doubting that their proceedings will be conducted with wisdom, temper and prudence, he grants and upon all occasions will recognize and allow their constitutional privileges.

I am commanded also to assure you that the Commons shall have ready access to His Excellency upon all seasonable occasions, and that their proceedings, as well as your words and actions, will constantly receive from him the most favourable construction.

Then His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to open parliament by a speech from the Throne.

And the House being returned to the Commons Chamber:

Mr. SPEAKER. I have the honour to state that the House, having attended on