

Sir WILFRID LAURIER: That is only by way of precaution?

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: By way of adequate precaution.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER: We have no intention on this side to discuss the measure to-day, but I would like to have more information than my right hon. friend has given me. Perhaps he cannot give it to-day. We would like to know what the number of the members of the Administration will be, including the hon. member for Halifax (Mr. Maclean), the parliamentary secretaries, the Solicitor General and so on. I will not ask my right hon. friend to give that information to-day. I know that he is blessed with a good memory, but there are limits to his memory, and perhaps, in view of the numerous personnel of the Administration, his memory is not equal to the undertaking of giving me the particulars. In the meantime, instead of relying on his memory, he may perhaps look the matter up and, after consulting with his officers, he may be able to get a list of those who are now members of the Administration.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: I am confident that I can rely on my memory, but I can tell my right hon. friend that I shall certainly bring a list.

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: It might stand as an order for a return.

Mr. LEMIEUX: Might I ask my right hon. friend the Prime Minister if he could, for the information of the House, give the functions of the Committee on Development and Reconstruction, presided over by my hon. friend the Acting Minister of Finance (Mr. Maclean)?

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: I laid the Order in Council on the table of the House on Monday last and I shall furnish my hon. friend with a printed copy of it before the commencement of the session tomorrow.

Sir SAM HUGHES: Are these ministers to accept office without consulting the people or to go back for re-election in the constituencies which they represent?

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: Under the Order in Council which is to be confirmed by legislation founded upon this resolution, my hon. friend from Halifax (Mr. Maclean) was appointed to the position which he holds and was in the enjoyment of a salary before that he was elected. I do not understand that it would be necessary for him to seek re-election.

Mr. CANNON: May I ask the right hon., the leader of the Government if it is true that the Inland Revenue Department is to be merged with the Department of Customs?

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: I shall make a statement with regard to that when the Bill comes up again.

Resolution reported, read a first and second time and concurred in.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 13 to amend the Salaries' Act and the provisions for preserving the independence of Parliament.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the first time.

REGULATIONS GOVERNING SALE OF CERTAIN COMMODITIES.

On motion of Sir George Foster the House went into Committee on the following proposed resolution, (Mr. Boivin in the Chair):

That it is expedient to provide that vegetables may be sold by the pound and that a dozen of eggs shall mean a dozen eggs weighing not less than a pound and a half; and also that packages containing human food or other commodities should be marked with the name and address of the fillers, and the weight, measure or quantity of their contents, but not including packages for export or imported into Canada, goods sold in bulk or broken packages, or fresh fruit and vegetables, and allowing for discrepancies in weight or measure due exclusively to difference in atmospheric conditions and other causes; and also to provide that new wood shall be sold by the cord, and every cord shall contain one hundred and twenty-eight cubic feet; and also to provide that every bag of Portland cement shall contain ninety-four pounds net weight, and four such bags shall constitute a barrel, and the bag shall be made of good strong fibrous material and have marked thereon the brand and name of the manufacturer and the net weight; but these provisions should not apply to articles held in stock; and also for the imposition of penalties for the violation of the law.

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: This is a resolution that is to form the basis of a Bill to be introduced. Most of the Bill to be introduced is similar to the one introduced last year and which was discussed in the House and distributed throughout the country. One or two additions are made to that. Probably any discussion which takes place upon it had better take place upon the Bill rather than upon the resolution.

Mr. BUREAU: I understand that eggs have been added?

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: Yes, eggs and cord wood have been added.

Resolution reported.