

Hon. Mr. BURRELL: The situation is not altered to any extent from what it was when I outlined the position of affairs about three days ago. It was pointed out by me then that at least until the end of the present fiscal year the pressmen who have struck will be in as favourable a position, or in a better position than those occupying similar positions outside, and therefore, in our opinion, there was no reason for them to strike. There are a large number of others who are still employed at the Bureau but who, of necessity, if the presses stop for any length of time, cannot go on working. In view of a condition of that kind arising and also in view of the fact that undoubtedly the cost of the operation of the Bureau and the production of Government printing is abnormally high, the Government would have to consider the question of the advisability of closing the Bureau. However, I am not discussing that at the present moment. Personally, I would like to see the work carried on under such conditions as to justify the continued operation of the Bureau not only on behalf of the people who are employed but on behalf of the whole of the people of this country. Meanwhile we are carrying on, and we hope that a more favourable condition of affairs may be reached.

Mr. MURPHY: The Minister has not answered the second part of the question: What arrangements have been made for printing the daily Hansard, Votes and Proceedings, and Orders of the Day?

Mr. BURRELL: A limited number of the Hansards are being reported, printed, or mimeographed, in this House, and some other necessary papers involving, of course, matters of great importance to the soldiers, as well as some matters concerning the House, are being printed in the Militia Department.

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY.

On the Orders of the Day:

Mr. CAHILL: Have the Government actually taken possession of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway?

Hon. Mr. REID: The Government have not taken possession. As receiver I took possession of the Grand Trunk Pacific on Monday morning at one o'clock.

GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SPEECH.

ADDRESS IN REPLY.

Consideration of the motion of Mr. D. L. Redman (Calgary East), for an Address to

His Excellency the Governor General in reply to his speech at the opening of the session, resumed from Tuesday, March 11.

Mr. THOMAS FOSTER (East York): Mr. Speaker—

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. Does the hon. member for East York rise to speak on the debate?

Mr. FOSTER: Yes.

Mr. SPEAKER: Under the rules—and I am guided in that respect by a decision given in the British House of Commons under precisely similar circumstances—the debate not having been adjourned but having lapsed, and the hon. member having spoken, he is debarred from speaking further. That is the interpretation of the Rule which I am compelled to take. It works a very great hardship on the hon. member for East York (Mr. Foster) under the circumstances and I am quite prepared to submit to the judgment of the House as to whether the House should nevertheless consent to his continuing the debate. If there is unanimous consent the hon. gentleman may proceed.

And the House having consented:

Mr. THOMAS FOSTER: Mr. Speaker, I thank the House for permitting me to continue the debate. When the House adjourned last night I had not quite finished my last sentence, and for the benefit of Hansard I would like to complete it. Now that the war is over, members should take the full responsibility. That completes the sentence. Canada should be more careful about the class of immigration coming into this country in the future. We know that in the past hundreds of immigration agents were sent all over Europe and we spent hundreds of thousands of dollars for the purpose of drumming up and sending forward immigrants to this country. We know that these agents were drawing a substantial remuneration for the work which they were doing and they were anxious to make an elaborate showing. They were not particular as to the class of people they were encouraging to come to Canada. For that reason, instead of securing the better class, these agents paid more attention to quantity than to the quality of the people that they sent to this country. As you know, many thousands presented themselves at the borders of the United States, were rejected, made the short circuit, and landed in Canada. Many of our institutions were filled to overflowing with an undesirable class of people who were physically