

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
OTTAWA, March 5, 1920.

Sir,—I have the honour to thank you for your letter of the 4th instant transmitting the acknowledgment of the Senate of His Majesty's greetings on the occasion of the opening of the new Parliament Buildings. I have cabled this acknowledgment to the Secretary of State for the Colonies in order that it may be humbly laid before His Majesty.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

DEVONSHIRE.

The Honourable the Speaker of the Senate
Ottawa.

MONETARY EXCHANGE AND OIL PRODUCTION.

INQUIRY.

Hon. Mr. DOMVILLE inquired:

1. Has the Government considered the losses to Canada caused by the present condition of the monetary exchange between Canada and the United States?
2. Does the Government recognize as a fact that were Canada to purchase from the United States fewer goods than this trouble about the monetary exchange would be ameliorated or would perhaps disappear?
3. Are the Government aware that by the development of the oil-yielding shales of Canada the present importation of fuel from the United States may be very largely decreased?
4. If they are aware, what means do the Government intend to take to secure such development?
5. If they are not aware, do they intend to hold any investigations so that this fact may be proven?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: 1 and 2. This is a matter of monetary exchange between the United States and Canada, and is one that cannot be controlled by the action of the Government. 3, 4 and 5. The Government is not charged with the development of these resources.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE.

On the Orders of the Day:

Mr. RAOUL DANDURAND: I rise to a question of privilege, and I may say that this is the first time in my twenty-two years' experience in this Chamber that I have done so. Last week I delivered a speech on the Address. My honourable friend from Pictou (Hon. Mr. Tanner) replied, unfortunately while I was absent, and my attention has been drawn to a reference which he made to me. He said, speaking of a gentleman who had expressed his high opinion of the Prime Minister:

Therein he differs from the honourable gentleman who spoke the other day; who was brimming over with political partisanship; who could think of nothing but political partisanship; and who could only be happy if he could

once more dip his hands into the political flesh-pots.

I hope that the importance of this expression escaped the attention of the honourable gentleman, because it speaks not only of my desires for the future, but of my past career. I should like to ask him to go thoroughly into that career, and to find, if he can, with the help of his friends, one single instance which would justify such a statement. For his own enlightenment I may say that it has been my privilege to represent the Government abroad more than once in matters appertaining to the public affairs of the country, and that I always refused to submit a statement of my expenses, although I was pressed to do so. If the honourable gentlemen, publicly or privately, should express a desire to see the correspondence establishing that fact I shall be very glad to lay it before him.

I deem it necessary to answer the honourable gentleman, because I believe that his statement imputes unworthy motives to a member of this Chamber. Never in the past have I thought of looking towards the flesh-pots, and I hope it will never enter my mind to do so in the future. My tastes and ambition do not lie in that direction. The honourable gentleman should not have deemed it necessary to impute such motives in order to explain my attitude towards the Government and the party in power. He might have found sufficient enlightenment coming, not from the province of Quebec, but from Ontario, and I would draw his attention to an article which appeared in the Farmer's Sun of the 11th of February last and which explains the attitude of Quebec, and my own attitude. It reads as follows:

It is funny to hear the big interests making love to Quebec. No Bolshevism there. No demagogues preaching sedition. No labour agitation. A contented, hardworking, thrifty people. A safe and sane province, where you may invest your money at seven per cent in privately owned concerns, unmolested by Government ownership. The finest province of Canada, and a glorious example to the turbulent West, with its organized farmers and labour men.

It is for the French-Canadian to laugh, perhaps rather bitterly. Only two years ago they were being denounced as slackers and traitors. The whole province was boiling with sedition. The sturdy men of Ontario ought to go down to Quebec and clear the French-Canadians out.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: May I interrupt the honourable gentleman to raise a point of order? My honourable friend is apparently entering upon another speech, or what would constitute a speech. I fail to understand in what way this is a point of