

the Canadian Patriotic Fund. The objects of the corporation and the purposes for which it was formed have been fully set forth in the Act alluded to.

#### UNOPPOSED MOTIONS FOR PAPERS.

Mr. Delisle: For a return showing how many persons of German nationality are employed in the several departments of the Federal Government, in what official capacity they are employed and the salaries they receive respectively.

Mr. McCraney: For a return showing how many applications for seed grain have been received from residents of the three Prairie provinces since June, 1914; how many bushels of grain were included in the applications; how many acres of land were to be seeded by the grain applied for; how many bushels of wheat, oats and barley, respectively, the Government has on hand with which to meet the applications; if arrangements have been made under which the several provincial governments will assist in meeting the needs of the settlers for seed grain.

On motion of Sir Robert Borden, the House adjourned at 6 p.m.

### Monday, February 15, 1915.

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

#### REPORTS AND PAPERS.

Interim report of the Commissioners of the Transcontinental railway for the period of nine months ended December 31, 1914.—Mr. Cochrane.

Correspondence with regard to the retirement from the Government of Hon. L. P. Pelletier and Hon. W. B. Nantel.—Sir Robert Borden.

Report of the board of officers concerning the boots supplied to the expeditionary force.—Major-General Hughes.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

##### APPOINTMENT OF TRANSLATORS.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN moved:

That the recommendation of His Honour the Speaker as to the appointments of Messrs Jules Tremblay, Paul Gédéon Ouimet, J. T. Keliher and L. J. Chagnon as translators of the 'blue book-staff' of the House, presented to the House on the 10th instant, be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

##### WAR SUPPLIES—BOOTS.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: With regard to the report of the departmental committee which had under consideration the character, quality and suitability of the

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boots supplied to the first Canadian contingent, laid on the table of the House to-day, I think it desirable and in the public interest, and also due to the various manufacturers who supplied the boots, that the report of the committee and all matters which it concerns should be referred to a special committee of the House, in order that the subject may be further investigated, if desirable, and that the committee may report to the House in due course its findings with regard to the whole matter. Accordingly, I shall move to-morrow, when motions are called, that a committee of seven members be appointed for that purpose. If my right hon. friend will give me to-day the names of three hon. gentlemen on the other side of the House, I shall be glad to have their names included in the list of members of the committee.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER: On Wednesday, February 10, the following questions were asked by the hon. member for Guysborough (Mr. Sinclair):

1. Has an investigation been made regarding the quality of the boots supplied to the Department of Militia and Defence for the use of the Canadian volunteers?
2. If so, who made this investigation and has the inquiry been closed?

The answers given by the Minister of Militia were as follows:

1. Yes.
2. Board appointed by the Minister of Militia. The inquiry has been closed.

There was in the press some time ago a report that the Minister of Militia had instituted inquiries in his own department, and it was also stated in the press that an inquiry had been instituted by a commission appointed by the Government for the purpose. Is it true that a commission has been appointed to conduct an investigation into this matter?

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: The inquiry was a departmental one, made, I understand, by a board appointed by the Minister of Militia.

##### REPORTED APPEARANCE OF AEROPLANES.

On the Orders of the Day being called:

Sir WILFRID LAURIER: A report appeared in the public press to-day to the effect that aeroplanes coming from the United States had been sighted. Can the right hon. Prime Minister give me any information on this point?