

On section 69,

The Governor in Council may place the militia, or any part thereof, on active service anywhere in Canada, and also beyond Canada, for the defence thereof, at any time when it appears advisable so to do by reason of emergency.

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. When this clause was passing through committee, it was suggested that there should be a provision for calling parliament within a certain number of days after the militia were called out, in the event of an emergency. I have copied the English law almost verbatim, which I think applies to this case, and I propose a section to be called 69a :

Whenever the Governor in Council places the militia or any part thereof on active service anywhere in Canada or beyond Canada for the defence thereof, if parliament be then separated by such adjournment or prorogation as will not expire within ten days, a proclamation shall be issued for a meeting of parliament within fifteen days, and parliament shall accordingly meet and sit on the day appointed by such proclamation and shall continue to sit and act in like manner as if it had stood adjourned or prorogued to the same day.

Mr. HAGGART. Was not that clause passed in committee before ?

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. No, it was suggested that some such clause should be adopted, and I promised to have one drafted. This is the one which the Minister of Justice has handed me, and it is copied from the English law.

Mr. MACLEAN. Is it the intention of the government to confine the calling out of the militia for the defence of Canada ? I am quite sure we are making a mistake in doing this. We are part and parcel of the British empire, and the defence of the empire is an emergency which might call for the turning out of the Canadian militia and sending them abroad. We have a political alliance to-day with the empire. We have, I believe, a defensive alliance. In this Bill we have the oath set forth : ' I do sincerely promise and swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty.' This proposed amendment used the very same language as the clause to which I object, namely :

When the Governor in Council places the militia or any part thereof on active service in Canada or beyond Canada for the defence thereof—

And so on. I object to the limitation, to the use of the militia of Canada only for the defence of Canada. Either we are of the empire, or we are not. If we are of the empire, as I say we are, the militia of Canada and the resources of Canada ought to be at the service of the empire, always provided that the people of Canada, through their parliament, are consenting parties. There ought to be provision in this Act under which the Governor in Council, as-

Mr. SAM. HUGHES.

suming the responsibility of the Act, may order the forces of this country outside of this country not only for the defence of Canada but for the defence of the empire. We to-day have a political alliance with the empire. We also have, I believe, a defensive alliance. To-day, our country is defended by the army and navy of the mother country. And, surely, while that state of affairs is continued we should not declare in our legislation that the forces of Canada are only for the defence of Canada. Not only have we a political and defensive alliance with the empire, but I hope we shall have a closer commercial alliance between Canada and the mother country before long. That is the great question that is before the empire to-day,—the political binding of the empire together, the defensive binding of the empire together and the commercial binding of the empire together. If that is the work that the people of the empire have in hand, let not this country, at this important stage of this great discussion, put it on record that the militia force of Canada is to go outside of Canada only for the defence of Canada. Let us put it fairly. Let all the world know that the imperial idea in the mother land has all the daughter states and colonies at her back in an emergency. To enact such a clause as here proposed is, in effect, to declare that the power and resources of Canada, which is the greatest of the daughter states, are not to be used for the defence of the empire. In England to-day there is a movement which means a great deal to Canada—a closer commercial union between the mother country and colonies. That movement is growing. The government in England is more or less committed to it. Mr. Chamberlain's committee reported the other day in favour of the extension of the principle of trade preference. Let us not prejudice that position by saying to all the world that whatever military forces we have are only for the defence of Canada. The prayer read in this House every day by Mr. Speaker, is, concerning the King, ' strengthen him to overcome and vanquish all his enemies.' That prayer, I believe, comes from the heart of the people of Canada. Let us not cause the statutes of Canada to give the lie to the prayer that we deliver here every day. I am a Canadian and nothing but a Canadian ; I am a nationalist and nothing but a nationalist. But I believe that the future of Canada is bound up with the maintenance of the imperial tie, and requires that we be prepared on all occasions to stand by the empire. That being the case, do not put it in our legislation that the fighting force of the country is purely for the defence of Canada. Why limit it ? Leave out these words, and I will have no objection to the clause. But to put in these words is to place us in a false position and to make people think that in some way Canadians are not pre-