

the Patricia district. The people there were permitted to vote in the provincial election but because they were left out in the redistribution they were not allowed to vote at the last two federal elections. The purpose of this bill is to extend the privilege of the franchise to the district west of the fifth meridian.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

ALEXANDRA TOLSTOY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. S. WOODSWORTH (Winnipeg North Centre): Is it a fact as reported in the press that Alexandra Tolstoy the daughter of Count Tolstoy, has been forbidden to visit the Dominion of Canada? According to press reports Miss Tolstoy was refused admission on the ground that she could not obtain a passport from the Soviet authorities. I think we ought to have an explanation from the Minister of Immigration.

Hon. W. A. GORDON (Minister of Immigration and Colonization): Mr. Speaker, the matter to which the hon. member has referred has not been drawn to my attention. If the question is placed on the order paper it will be answered.

VANCOUVER—SECOND NARROWS BRIDGE

On the orders of the day:

Hon. IAN MACKENZIE (Vancouver Centre): May I ask the hon. the Minister of Marine (Mr. Duranleau) if he is in receipt of the report of the commission which investigated the Second Narrows bridge at Vancouver, and if so does he purpose to have it published?

Hon. ALFRED DURANLEAU (Minister of Marine): In answer to my hon. friend I will say that we have received that report but up to the present time we have not considered it.

CENSUS COMMISSIONERS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. L. BROWN (Lisgar): I wish to ask the Secretary of State (Mr. Cahan) if census commissioners have been appointed and if so who are the commissioners appointed for the province of Manitoba?

Hon. C. H. CAHAN (Secretary of State): In reply I would ask my hon. friend to put the question on the order paper.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

ADDRESS IN REPLY MOVED BY MR. MAX. D. CORMIER
AND SECONDED BY MR. VICTOR C. PORTEOUS

The house proceeded to the consideration of the speech delivered by His Excellency the Administrator at the opening of the session.

Mr. MAX. D. CORMIER (Restigouche-Madawaska) (Translation): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to move, seconded by the hon. member for North Grey (Mr. Porteous) that a humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Administrator of Canada, to thank His Excellency for the gracious speech which he has been pleased to make to both Houses of Parliament, at the opening of this session.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honour which reverts to the constituency I am proud to represent; a burden which I personally must bear. I hope, however, that the customary indulgence of this house towards new members will facilitate the difficult task with which the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Bennett) and his hon. colleagues have been kind enough to entrust me.

I believe that this is the first time an Acadian has been so honoured. It was also desired that my first words uttered, as a member of the House of Commons of Canada, should be in the language of my forefathers as well as my own. In my own name and on behalf of my French-speaking constituents of Madawaska and Restigouche, I wish to offer, to whom it may concern my humble token of sincere gratitude.

The hon. members who preceded me in the difficult task which I must fulfil may often have been, and with truth, able to boast of Canada's prosperity and thank Providence for its bounty in this respect. Can I, however, say to-day that the country is prosperous? The speech from the throne mentions the fact that the nations of the world are passing through an economic crisis and that Canada has not been spared.

If we cannot thank Providence for the difficulties with which we are beset, we can and must sincerely thank Providence for having assisted us to place at the head of the affairs of this country an administration which will take the necessary measures to relieve the situation and provide in the future against the return of present conditions.

His Excellency also tells us that, although Canada has not felt the pangs which other nations have, the situation of our country is