

acter would not require a previous resolution, but that would be a matter for the consideration of Your Honour. But, so far as the general subject of the Bill is concerned, it has received the very careful and prolonged consideration of the Government. The arrangements which have been made with regard to the exportation of nickel have received the unqualified and absolute approval of the British authorities, and especially of the committee which has been formed in Great Britain for the purpose of dealing with the exportation of any materials or supplies which might be of use to the enemy.

Mr. SPEAKER: I judge that this Bill would so affect trade as to come under rule 50, which provides:

No Bill relating to trade, or the alteration of the laws concerning trade, is to be brought into this House until the proposition shall have been first considered in a Committee of the Whole House, and agreed unto by the House.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN: The Bill to regulate the export of natural gas and electrical power was introduced without any previous resolution by Sir Charles Fitzpatrick in 1906. It did not get through, and was reintroduced by Sir Allen Aylesworth at the next session. In both cases the Bill was given its first reading without any preceding resolution, so that the procedure of the House bears me out absolutely. As this Bill is exactly on the same lines as the Bills introduced by the two former Ministers of Justice, I think I am quite within my rights in moving the first reading; but if Your Honour decides that I must proceed by way of resolution, I shall certainly bow to your decision, but in that case we shall be changing the procedure of the House.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: The matter might stand, so that Mr. Speaker may look into it.

Motion stands.

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SPEECH.

ADDRESS-IN-REPLY.

The House proceeded to the consideration of the Speech of His Royal Highness the Governor General at the opening of the session.

Mr. W. G. WEICHEL (North Waterloo) rose to move that an Address be presented to His Royal Highness the Governor General offering the humble thanks of this House to His Royal Highness for the gracious speech which he has been pleased

[Sir Robert Borden.]

to make to both Houses of Parliament. He said:

Mr. Speaker, it would be folly on my part not to admit that I am to a certain extent embarrassed to-day in trying to perform the task that has been assigned to me. I fully appreciate the courtesy, the broad-minded spirit of British fair play, which accompanies this honour, yet I realize that the same is not to myself, but to the constituency I have the honour to represent in this House, to the worthy, frugal, energetic and industrious citizens of North Waterloo. On behalf of my constituents, I desire to express to the right hon. the Prime Minister my deep appreciation of the generous impulse which prompted him at this momentous period of our country's history to confer on my humble self this great honour, an honour I can assure you that is highly prized and doubly appreciated.

Before proceeding with my remarks allow me to convey to His Royal Highness the Governor General and his estimable consort our deepest feelings of respect and gratitude for the kindly courtesy and good will they have on each and every occasion exhibited towards the Canadian people. The untiring zeal and activity displayed by His Royal Highness in connection with the mobilization and departure of the first expeditionary force, and the kindly interest he has displayed in the welfare of the militia generally, as evidenced by the sacrifices he has made to travel long distances to inspect and encourage them, have been highly appreciated by a grateful nation. His presence in Canada during this critical period is highly desirable, and his advice to the Canadian Government has been of inestimable value.

The thanks of the Canadian people are due to Her Royal Highness for the keen interest she has shown in Red Cross work for the Canadian forces, and for her generous assistance towards the Belgian relief funds. Her kindly Christmas gift to each officer and man of the expeditionary force consisting of a card of greetings and a block of maple sugar, was highly appreciated. Apart altogether from the pleasure afforded to the Canadian troops, and the realization that this gift meant that the highest lady in the land had not forgotten them in their uncomfortable surroundings at Salisbury, this presentation of one of the native products of the Dominion has had a very great effect, in that it has called