

Parliament assembled, humbly approach Your Majesty praying that Your Majesty hereafter may be graciously pleased to refrain from conferring any titles upon Your subjects domiciled or living in Canada.

Before moving the adjournment of the debate, I ventured to point out to the members of the House the far reaching effects of that amendment if it should be carried, and at the conclusion of my brief remarks, I moved that the debate be adjourned, and it is now resumed upon that motion. I am still of the opinion that the amendment moved by the hon. member for Springfield goes too far, and I am still of the opinion, which I expressed to the House on the 8th of April, that the concluding portion of the motion of the hon. member for Kingston ought to be eliminated. It has been suggested to me that the amendment moved by the hon. member for Springfield might be amended so as to pray His Majesty to refrain from conferring any hereditary titles upon persons domiciled or living in Canada or any titles other than such terms, distinctive of variations of naval and military rank, as are necessary or customary for the purposes of His Majesty's naval or military forces. Even if that form of resolution were adopted, it seems to me it would carry the proposal beyond what is desirable at the present time. For example, we have in Canada, under the authority of the Crown, acting under the constitution, certain distinctions which are recognized and which would have to be withdrawn if the motion passed in the form which my hon. friend proposes.

I find that the word "title" is defined in the dictionaries as "an appellation of dignity, distinction or pre-eminence," and I find also that under the authority vested in the Crown there are certain appellations which have been in force from Confederation down to the present time, which I think have not heretofore been found in any way prejudicial to the public interest, and which would have to be withdrawn if the motion which my hon. friend from Springfield (Mr. Richardson) proposes should be passed by this House and by the Senate. That House, it must be remembered, is a recognized part of this Parliament, and has a voice in such matters.

The Lieutenant Governor of a province is designated by Royal authority as "His Honour." Privy Councillors in Canada are by Royal authority designated as "Honourable," and that during the term of their life. The Solicitor General of Canada is by

the same authority designated by the title "Honourable." Senators of Canada, by the like authority, are designated by the title "Honourable," but only during their office, the title not being continued afterwards. The Speaker of the House of Commons during the tenure of his office is entitled under Royal authority to the designation of "Honourable." The Chief Justice of Canada, the judges of the Supreme and Exchequer Courts of Canada, and the Chief Justices and judges of the Superior Courts of all the provinces of Canada are by Royal authority entitled to the designation of "Honourable" while they hold office. The same authority provides that upon the recommendation of the Governor General the title may be continued to them after they have resigned from office. The Presidents and Speakers of the Legislatures of the province are styled "Honourable" during their tenure of office. The Executive Councillors of the provinces are styled "Honourable" while in office. Legislative Councillors in any province are not to have that title except those who were appointed before Confederation.

The amendment proposed by my hon. friend from Springfield (Mr. Richardson), as I pointed out, would prevent recognition by the Crown of the service of men serving in the military forces of Canada, and if adopted it would create what seems an invidious distinction between men who are serving in the Canadian Army Corps beyond the seas and the men who are serving in the forces of the Empire from other dominions. I think even the hon. gentleman who proposes the motion would agree that a man who has earned the Victoria Cross or any other of the distinctions conferred by Royal authority in recognition of valorous service at the front should be recognized, if he belongs to the Canadian army corps to the same extent and in the same manner as if he belonged to the forces of any of the other dominions of the Empire or of the United Kingdom.

But in the suggestion put forward, it is proposed that military distinctions shall be continued, and that all other distinctions in this country shall be discontinued. I suggest to hon. members that it might be worth while to consider carefully before this Parliament embarks upon such a policy. Our country, I hope, and more than hope, I believe, is not embarking upon the path of being a great military nation. We are fighting in this war in order that war may end. We are not fighting that our Empire may embark upon the project of becoming a great military power. We want