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The Week in Parliament.

PARLIAMENT is now in the hurry mood and everybody is talking about the day of prorogation. It is a singular thing about Parliament that on the day it meets the members and employees begin to wonder what time they will get through and this question recurs almost day in and day out from the hour that the speech from the throne is delivered until the day when the battery on Nepean Point proclaims the end of the session. This session began Jan. 11th, or just a little more than six months ago. With a short, legislative programme, no tariff changes, no bills bearing on an approaching election and in short nothing which might be termed of a controvertial character, one would surmise that three months would finish the session of 1905. More than double that time has elapsed and Parliament is still in session. For some reason best known to themselves the members of the Government have not hurried Parliament and have taken things easy from the beginning. There has been no attempt to intimidate the Opposition, no effort to keep the House sitting all night or all week, no forcing of any debate. On

the contrary every concession has been made to the wishes of the Opposition and to them has been given for criticism or debate, every opportunity.

The best portion of the week in the House of Commons has been devoted to passing the supplementary estimates after Mr. Foster on behalf of the Opposition had made the criticism and warned the Government that the financial expenditure has grown to be heavy and careful oversight was necessary, which is really what Mr. Fielding, the Finance Minister, himself stated in his budget.

On the motion to amend the militia act, Mr. Foster drew attention to the disproportion between the officers and the staff and the number of men who might be termed the actual working part of the force. There has been an increase for headquarters and district staff pay alone of nearly \$44,000. Alluding to the proposed increase of the militia force to a drill body of 1,000 men Mr. Foster took the position that Canada must not undertake anything at the present time in the shape of organizing defensive forces, but should be content with drilling the armed