

these millers are carrying out their contract. I have never heard anything to the contrary except rumours which have been published in the press, but which are entirely incorrect.

Sir WILFRED LAURIER: On the same subject, I saw another statement a few days ago that the sacks for the flour were bought in the United States.

Mr. ROGERS: I may say that the sacks were purchased in the city of Montreal.

#### ENLISTMENT AT PRINCE RUPERT.

On the Orders of the Day being called:

Mr. PARDEE: I desire to draw the attention of the Government to a telegram I have received:

Prince Rupert, Aug. 19, 1914.

August 6th Stork was wired by Ottawa to enlist men for front. Enlisted hundred. On tenth August received wire from D.O.C., Victoria, that Ottawa instructions were error. Nothing done since. Men who enlisted disgusted; others ready can't go; hundred and sixty Irish Fusiliers from Vancouver arrived Sunday to protect us; situation galling to all independent citizens.—G. Manson.

I desire to ask the Government for a statement with regard to this report.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: I am not familiar with the details of the matter to which the hon. gentleman alludes. I will bring his inquiry to the attention of the Minister of Militia, and hope to have an answer to-morrow.

#### WAR MEASURES BILL.

On motion of Hon. C. J. Doherty (Minister of Justice), the House went into Committee to consider Bill No. 2, to confer certain powers upon the Government in Council and to amend the Immigration Act, Mr. Blondin in the Chair.

On the preamble:

Mr. MACDONALD: I would like to know whether this Bill contains power to deal with certain matters which some business men in the country have been discussing, namely, the position of patents held in Canada by citizens of Germany, Austria or any other country with which Great Britain may be at war. It has been stated that some action was taken or was about to be taken in Great Britain in regard to that matter. I assume that pending hostilities royalties could not be collected upon these patents, but the Bill has gone through so quickly that I have not been able to

follow it and ascertain whether power is conferred on the Government to deal with these patents if in the interest of the country or for reasons of reprisal or otherwise it should be prudent to do so.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: It is thought that all necessary powers are covered by the Bill. As I understand the situation, on the outbreak of war rights of the character to which the hon. gentleman alludes and many others are suspended, but according to international usage they revive on peace being concluded. As to possible action by any foreign power with which we are at war, that also is dealt with. It is thought that sufficient powers are conferred under the terms of the Bill.

Bill reported, read the third time, and passed.

#### COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL INTERESTS BILL.

On motion of Sir Robert Borden, Bill No. 4, to conserve the commercial and financial interests of Canada—Hon. W. T. White (Minister of Finance)—was read the second time, and the House went into committee thereon, Mr. Blondin in the Chair.

On the preamble:

Mr. GRAHAM: I should like to call the attention of the Government to a matter which possibly it might be well to consider at the present time in connection with the financial situation. Certain companies dealing with the public are under strict Government supervision and inspection. Once a year the securities in which these companies invest—and they invest practically all their money in securities—are valued by the Finance Department, and the value given approximates at least the value on that day in the open exchange. For instance, a municipal bond or debenture held by a company, for which 100 per cent has been paid, though it is really good and its intrinsic value cannot be changed, is given a value which is the value at which the bond could be sold on that day.

I need not explain that if a valuation of that kind were made, under present conditions, the assets of a great many of these companies would be interfered with materially. Possibly the department has full power now to take into consideration all the exceptional circumstances and place on these securities a value which they have had and will have as soon as the trying circumstances under which we are placed have passed. If not, I think it would be