

aware, the powers of the wartime prices and trade board are derived from the Continuation of Transitional Measures Act, and as such are subject to severe limitations. Control cannot be reimposed upon any article from which it has been removed. As indicated in the speech from the throne, the government is going to ask parliament to adopt special emergency legislation, and the controls which may be necessary in the future would, I assume, be imposed under that act.

At the moment the personnel of the wartime prices and trade board is down to skeleton proportions, and it is intended to proceed with the policy of disbanding the staff of the board.

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA ACT

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION—CORRESPONDENCE WITH PROVINCES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Donald M. Fleming (Eglinton): Yesterday the Prime Minister tabled correspondence exchanged between the government and the premiers of several of the provinces with respect to suggestions for constitutional amendments. In connection with a similar matter last year the Prime Minister proposed to the house that the documents should be printed in *Hansard*. Will he, in view of the importance of these documents, propose a similar course in this instance, for the information of members?

Right Hon. L. S. St. Laurent (Prime Minister): If it is the desire of members to have the correspondence printed as an appendix to *Hansard*, I think it might be in order for Your Honour so to direct.

Mr. Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the house that the correspondence referred to be printed as an appendix to *Hansard*?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

(For text of correspondence, see appendix, pages 43 to 47.)

LABOUR CONDITIONS

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES—HOTEL AND WATER TRANSPORT WORKERS—APPLICABILITY OF KELLOCK AWARD

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Prime Minister? Has he received representations asking that the Kellock award be made applicable to hotel and water transport workers in the same way as to railway workers, as was believed to be the intention of parliament when the matter was dealt

The Address—Mr. Drew

with last session? Can the Prime Minister say what consideration has been given to any such representations?

Right Hon. L. S. St. Laurent (Prime Minister): The leaders of the labour unions called upon me some time ago—I am not quite sure about the date, but it was after the award was made public—and requested that something be done about the fact that in the award there was a difference between the treatment of the employees in railway service and that accorded to those retained for hotel or water transportation services. My reply was that the government had carried out the terms of the legislation enacted by parliament; that it was not the intention of the government to ask parliament for any further legislation in that regard, and that without further legislation the award of the arbitrator would have to stand.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

CONTINUATION OF DEBATE ON ADDRESS IN REPLY

The house resumed, from Wednesday, January 31, consideration of the motion of Mr. W. H. McMillan for an address to His Excellency the Governor General in reply to his speech at the opening of the session.

Mr. George A. Drew (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, may I first extend my congratulations to the mover (Mr. McMillan) and the seconder (Mr. Breton) of this motion. They performed in a commendable manner the duty imposed upon them, and I am sure the manner in which they discharged that duty was such as to meet with acceptance on the part of members on both sides of the house.

We meet today at one of the most solemn hours in Canadian history. The immense gravity of the situation is not measured only by those military events which have impressed upon us the urgent need for building the ramparts of freedom with the utmost speed. Equally serious are the misunderstandings which have arisen among many of the nations which are partners in the common cause of saving freedom itself. Never was there more confusion of thought and uncertainty about the future. The remarkable scientific achievements which carry words and pictures instantly to every part of the world seem only to have added to that confusion.

At such a time, no voice, however humble, should add to that confusion and misunderstanding in any way which can be avoided. The supreme task confronting the free world is to restore with the utmost speed that measure of mutual confidence and good will upon