

my ministers. The report of the commission will be laid before you.

In view of the Imperial Conference on Copyright, at which unanimous conclusions were reached in favour of harmonious legislation on this subject throughout the empire, a Bill to revise and consolidate the law on copyright will be submitted to you.

A measure will be submitted to you in furtherance of the provisions of the treaty recently passed with the United States on the subject of contiguous waters.

Bills will also be introduced respecting banks and banking, terminal elevators at the head of Lake Superior; and with regard to the investigation and betterment of industrial and labour conditions and other subjects.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

The accounts of the last year will be laid before you.

The estimates for the coming fiscal year will be submitted for your approval at an early date.

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate:

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

These important subjects and all matters affecting the public interest I commend to your best consideration and pray that Divine Providence may guide your deliberations.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General to both Houses be taken into consideration on Monday next, and that it be the first order of the day on that day and on every subsequent day until disposed of. It has been suggested to me that Monday would be a more convenient day for members than tomorrow.

Motion agreed to.

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEES.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER moved:

That a special committee be appointed to prepare and report, with all convenient speed, lists of members to compose the Select Standing Committees of this House under Rule 10, said committee to be composed of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Mr. Borden (Halifax), Mr. Paterson, Mr. Fisher, Mr. Haggart (Lanark), Mr. Pardee, Mr. George Taylor; and that that portion of Rule 10 limiting the number of members of the said committee be suspended in relation thereto.

Mr. GEORGE TAYLOR. Mr. Speaker, may I suggest to the right hon. the Prime Minister to change the name of Taylor to Perley?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. I will certainly accede with great pleasure to the request

of my hon. friend. I see by reports in the newspapers, if they are verified, that my hon. friend is to cease to act as chief whip of the Conservative party in this House. Will he permit me to say, so far as I am concerned, and I believe all the members of this House will take advantage of the present occasion to join with me in saying, how much we regret that he is no longer to occupy the post which he has occupied for over twenty years.

Mr. GEORGE TAYLOR. Twenty-five.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. Not that in some respects I am not gratified that he no longer occupies that post, because he has been a good fighter, and we all like a good fighter. However, I sincerely regret that he is no longer to occupy the position which he has occupied with such acceptance to his own party and with satisfaction to members on this side of the House.

Mr. GEORGE TAYLOR. Permit me to thank the Prime Minister for the kindly remarks he has made. I might suggest to him that in carrying out that long-promised reform of the Senate, he adopt this course with regard to members who have served 25 years in this House, like my friend the Minister of Customs and one or two others I might name, that they be simply transferred to the garden of ease over in the Senate.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. If I might be permitted, I think there is a good deal in the suggestion of my hon. friend. We recently opened a constituency by appointing a member of this House to the Senate. The election went against us. Perhaps if we opened the hon. gentleman's constituency in the same way, it would decide for us.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. I appreciate what the Prime Minister has said with reference to the very eminent services rendered not only to the Conservative party, but to the country as a whole by the hon. member for Leeds. The Prime Minister has said very truly that he has been a good fighter. He has been not only a good fighter, but a fair fighter, and I think that although he is about as strong a Tory as is to be found in the Dominion of Canada, there has never been a man in this House who has cherished the slightest ill-feeling against him. But I would like to say to my right hon. friend the Prime Minister that he should not confine himself to the past tense in referring to my hon. friend from Leeds, because he not only has been a good fighter, but he is a good fighter, and will be a good fighter in the future—just as good in the future as he has been in the past; and I do not doubt that the services of my hon. friend from Leeds will be just as valuable and just as useful to the Conservative