

seriously imperilled by the difficulties that have arisen between the several local governments and the fishermen of both countries. If there is a reasonable ground of doubt as to the interpretation of a particular clause in a particular treaty, I put it to my hon. friend as a lawyer of repute, as leader of the Opposition in this House and as a gentleman who is entitled to take rank among the statesmen of Canada, whether it is not, bearing in mind the position of Great Britain and Canada, and the United States—whether it is not, if there be a reasonable doubt as to the construction or interpretation of a particular clause, to refer that to an impartial tribunal of independent jurists for the purpose of obtaining a reasonable interpretation thereof? One thing I may say to the hon. gentleman, and that is this: that so far as the present government are concerned, they will do nothing, knowingly at any rate, that will in the slightest degree imperil the rights or in any possible shape or way detract from the dignity or honour of the people of Canada, and with that explanation, which is all I can give at present, I shall conclude my remarks on the present occasion.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—It was not my intention to speak on this motion, but as the right hon. gentleman has indulged in the usual attack on the late government, for which I consider myself somewhat responsible, I may be excused if I claim the indulgence of the House for a short time to-morrow. I move the adjournment of the debate.

The motion was agreed to.

The Senate adjourned until to-morrow at three p.m.

THE SENATE.

OTTAWA, Tuesday, December 3, 1907.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

UNREVISED HANSARD.

Hon. Mr LOUGHEED—Before the orders of the day are proceeded with, may I direct the attention of my hon. friend the

Secretary of State to the fact that the unrevised issue of the debates seems to have reverted back into the very objectionable form to which exception was taken during previous sessions. Last session the galley form was decided on, which is very much more preferable than the form we have received to-day. An unrevised form with a one-half inch margin for corrections is extremely inconvenient, and I would direct the attention of my hon. friend to the desirability and to the necessity of the galley form being introduced.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—The management of that matter is usually with the debates committee, but I understand from one of the officials that an order has been given to amend in the direction given by the hon. gentleman.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—If so, it has been disregarded in the issue of yesterday's report.

THE ADDRESS.

DEBATE RESUMED.

The order of the day being called:

Resuming the adjourned debate on the consideration of His Excellency the Governor General's speech on the opening of the Fourth Session of the Tenth Parliament.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—I am in a position just now to be convinced how easily it is for one to violate a promise which he has made to himself. As I intimated last night, when I came to this Chamber, I had made up my mind not to take any active part in the debates during the session. But after the remarks which have been made in reference to the conduct, the actions, and the policy of the late government, I thought it incumbent upon me at least to say a few words in defence of its policy. I presume I may be permitted, like my hon. leader, to congratulate the gentlemen who have succeeded in obtaining seats in the Senate, a body that they have for years been condemning in language not at all polite. Be that as it may, I congratulate my hon. friend, I might say personal friend, the hon. member for Ottawa, for having deserted, if I may use that expression, the arduous duties pertaining to a representative of a city like this, to seek repose in the serene atmosphere of the Senate. From what I know