

Canals, will have the matter looked into immediately and give orders to countermand the determination at which Mr. Gutelius appears to have arrived. Mr. Gutelius was interviewed upon the subject by the reporter of the Telegraph, and he admitted that this was the conclusion which had been arrived at. I would also like my hon. friend the Minister of Marine and Fisheries (Mr. Hazen) to look into the matter and give to the Minister of Railways and Canals the information which I know he can give, and which, I am sure, will satisfy the minister that it is not desirable to take this very backward step as far as it concerns connection between St. John and important points on the north shore of the province, as well as points in the province of Quebec. It will prove of very great inconvenience to the people of St. John and also the people on the north shore of the province.

Hon. FRANK COCHRANE (Minister of Railways and Canals): I will be very glad to look into the matter and report to my hon. friend.

#### THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SPEECH.

##### ADDRESS IN REPLY.

The House proceeded to the consideration of the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General at the opening of the session.

Mr. GORDON CROOKS WILSON (Wentworth) rose to move that an Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, offering the humble thanks of this House to His Excellency for the gracious speech which he has been pleased to make to both Houses of Parliament. He said:

Mr. Speaker, in rising to move the address to be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, allow me to thank the Government for the honour conferred upon me. I would have preferred to have listened to some more worthy and capable member, more competent than I am to deal with the subject, at such an important time in our country's and Empire's history, but I accept the honour, not as a personal one, but rather one for the constituency which I have the honour to represent. I, therefore, ask the indulgence of the House while I make a few brief remarks.

Allow me to congratulate you, Mr. Speaker, upon your elevation to the office of first Commoner. Your fitness for the position has been voiced by both the distinguished leaders in this House.

I believe that I am voicing the unanimous sentiment of this Parliament when I express deep regret at the departure from our country of Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and the Princess Patricia. During the most critical period in the history of our country it was fortunate that we had in our councils His Royal Highness, with his experience, mature judgment and splendid patriotism. We welcome, however, to our country the head of one of the most historic houses in Britain, and believe that in His Excellency the Duke of Devonshire we have a worthy successor to our late Governor General. In this connection it is interesting to know that when this Dominion was in the making, about 1865, his father, Lord Edward Cavendish, was for some time a resident of Canada as an officer in the Rifle Brigade, then a part of the British garrison in Canada, and stationed in Hamilton, a part of which city I represent here.

To the Duchess of Devonshire, we bid an especial welcome. She is no stranger to Canada, and we feel that her residence in this country, during the period when her father, that veteran statesman, Lord Lansdowne, represented the Crown here, has made a bond of union with us that her present residence will enhance.

The third year of the world's greatest war, and we hope the last, finds Canada's participation of such magnitude and importance as to call forth the admiration of our allies and neutral nations, and even astonishes us, who at the outbreak of hostilities, never dreamed that we possessed the military and financial resources that we have put into the combat. If any member of this parliament had at that momentous session of August, 1914, expressed the opinion that we would, during the war, enlist an army of 400,000 men, transport 300,000 to Europe, place and maintain in the fighting line four divisions, finance from our own resources the enormous expenditure for the maintenance of this army, create credits for the British Government of \$250,000,000, manufacture for the allies a billion dollars of war supplies, he would have been designated a dreamer, or even a stronger term would have been used. But Canada has done this and more. Under the leadership of the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister (Sir Robert Borden), the Canadian people have played, and will continue to play, an effective and glorious part in the great fight against militarism and for the preservation and consolidation of