

I think, too, that he is to be congratulated upon the debate that the measure he has so introduced has provoked. We have had views, differing views, views favourable to the measure introduced and views opposed to it, both of them, I think, strongly entertained, amounting to something more than views, to strong convictions; and we have had them put before this House by the different members who have spoken in language that was calm. In the course of their observations they have, I am sure, contributed a great deal in addition to the knowledge that some of us may have possessed in connection with this question at the outset of this debate. I feel quite justified, and I am sure that the House will endorse me in my congratulations to the member for Montreal (Mr. Bickerdike) for the manner in which he has introduced this measure and the way in which he has pleaded for the conviction which he so earnestly entertains. I am perfectly free to admit at the outset that the views that I entertained at the opening of this debate have not been changed by anything I have heard in the course of it. Although I regret to differ with the distinguished gentleman who introduced the Bill, I have no hesitation in pronouncing my opinion as adverse to the measure which this House is asked to adopt. The observations which I think it may be proper for me to make in support of the view which I so entertain I trust will not be very lengthy, but they may afford me an opportunity of laying before this House some of that information which several members who have spoken have regretted that this House had not been put in possession of to enable them to discuss as fully and adequately as they would desire this important question. There are also, I think, in the House some hon. gentlemen who desire to speak on one side or the other of this question and to whom the House would listen with pleasure and with profit. It is therefore not to be anticipated that we should close this debate at a very early hour this evening, and I beg, Mr. Speaker, to move the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to, and debate adjourned.

On motion of Mr. Rogers, the House adjourned at 10.30 p.m.

### Friday, February 6, 1914.

The House met at Three o'clock, the Speaker in the Chair.

## FIRST READINGS OF BILLS.

### PRIVATE BILLS.

Bill No. 51, respecting The Bronson Company—Mr. Fripp.

Bill No. 52, respecting The Central Railway Company of Canada—Mr. W. H. Bennett.

Bill No. 53, respecting The Empire Life Insurance Company of Canada—Mr. Macdonell.

Bill No. 54, respecting The Niagara-Welland Power Company—Mr. Blain.

Bill No. 55, respecting The Quinze and Blanche River Railway Company—Mr. Fripp.

### DUTY ON BASIC FURNACE SLAG.

On the Orders of the Day being called:

Mr. EMMERSON: The Minister of Customs—

Mr. SPEAKER: I do not think it is permissible for one member of the House to get up over and over again, when the Orders of the Day are called, and introduce subjects and ask questions. While it is permissible to ask questions regarding something which is of urgent importance, most of these are questions which could be more intelligently and correctly answered if the questions were placed on the Order Paper and allowed to be answered in that way. To keep a minister rising over and over again to answer these questions is, to my mind, out of order.

Mr. EMMERSON: If Your Honour's remarks had any application to me I would certainly apologize. A moment ago the Minister of Customs, implementing a promise which he made in the House day before yesterday to bring down a copy of an order or ruling of the Customs Board, handed me this document:

Meeting of the Board of Customs held at Ottawa, 9th September, 1913.

Question of duty on basic furnace slag, ground.

Declared to be dutiable under tariff item 663, and in effect from 9th November, 1913.

(Sgd.) John McDougald,  
Chairman.

I would like to ask my hon. friend the Minister of Customs whether there are any papers or whether he can give any information as to the application upon which this order was based. Was there a petition? Were there letters? This is a bald statement without any preamble, nor does it in any way show upon whose motion this action is taken. I would ask for some cor-