

I have also pleasure in informing you that the Governments of Australia and New Zealand have accepted an invitation from my Government to attend a conference in London next June for the consideration of trade, transportation, cable and other matters of intercolonial concern, and it is hoped that the meeting may lead to an extension of Canadian Trade with those important portions of His Majesty's Dominions.

I have further to advise you that my Government, having caused inquiry to be made, has reached the conclusion that the establishment of direct steamship service with South Africa would enable Canada to secure in that country a profitable market for her varied products, and, to that end, will endeavour to arrange for such a service.

His Majesty has been graciously pleased to invite the Premier to be present at the ceremonies attending his Coronation. It is to be hoped that the presence of the leading statesmen of the several colonies upon this occasion will afford an opportunity for the discussion of subjects of mutual interest which may considerably affect the development of our trade and commerce in the near future, with the mother country and with our sister colonies.

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons :*

The public accounts for the last year and the estimates for the succeeding year will be laid before you without delay.

*Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate :*

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons :*

I commit the above matters and all others which may be submitted to you, to your earnest consideration, and I rely upon your wisdom and prudence to deal with them in the manner which, under Divine Providence, may prove most conducive to the best interests of Canada.

On motion of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, His Excellency's Speech was ordered to be taken into consideration to-morrow.

On motion of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, it was

Resolved,—That Select Standing Committees of this House for the present Session be appointed for the following purposes :—1. On Privileges and Elections.—2. On Expiring Laws.—3. On Railways, Canals and Telegraph Lines.—4. On Miscellaneous Private Bills.—5. On Standing Orders.—6. On Printing.—7. On Public Accounts.—8. On Banking and Commerce.—9. On Agriculture and Colonization,—which said Committees shall severally be empowered to examine and inquire into all such matters and things as may be referred to them by the House ; and to report from time to time their observations and opinions thereon ; with power to send for persons, papers and records.

On motion of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, a Special Committee of five Members was appointed to prepare and report with all convenient speed, Lists of Members to compose the *Select Standing Committees*, ordered by the House this day, to be composed of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Mr. Borden (Halifax), Sir Richard Cartwright, Mr. Sutherland (Oxford) and Mr. Haggart.

On motion of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, a Select Committee was appointed to supervise the Official Report of the Debates of this House during the present Session, with power to report from time to time ; to be composed of Messrs. Ball, Champagne, Charlton, Clarke, Earle, Holmes, LaRivière, Macdonald, Madore, Monet, Roche (Marquette), Russell, Scott, Sutherland (Essex), and Taylor.

Mr. Speaker laid before the House.—The Report of the Joint Librarians of Parliament, which is as follows :—