

Hon. ALFRED DURANLEAU (Acting Minister of Fisheries): The report in question has been received but I am informed that it is so very voluminous, covering nearly two hundred pages and containing plans, sketches and so forth, that the printing of it would be out of all proportion. However, there is being prepared a complete digest of the whole report which I think we shall be able to submit probably at the end of this week.

Mr. RALSTON: I understand that the report itself will be laid on the table; it is only a question of printing.

Mr. DURANLEAU: It will not be printed, nor do I know whether the report itself will be tabled. We will table a complete digest of it. Of course the report will be available at the department to any member of the house who wishes to consult it.

PURCHASE OF LABRADOR

On the orders of the day:

Mr. WILLIAM DUFF (Antigonish-Guysborough): Will the Prime Minister (Mr. Bennett) be good enough at his convenience to lay on the table of the house any correspondence between the members of the Newfoundland government and the members of his own government relevant to the negotiations regarding the sale or purchase of what is commonly known as Newfoundland Labrador. If there is no such correspondence will the Prime Minister at some future date kindly give a résumé of any conversations between members of the Newfoundland government and members of his own government with respect to the matter.

Right Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Prime Minister): There is a question on the order paper dealing with this matter. When that question is answered the information sought will be given.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

ADDRESS IN REPLY MOVED BY MR. CHARLES BOURGEOIS AND SECONDED BY MR. J. H. STITT

The house proceeded to the consideration of the speech delivered by His Excellency the Governor General at the opening of the session.

Mr. CHARLES BOURGEOIS (Three Rivers-St. Maurice) (Translation): Mr. Speaker, it is an honour fraught with danger for one inexperienced as I am to ask this house to approve the speech from the throne, since, from times immemorial, hon. members

who constitute His Majesty's loyal opposition, invariably find matter in it for criticism. I do not deceive myself to the extent of hoping that on this occasion the opposition will be so gracious as to admit that the government to which I adhere has well administered the country's affairs and that Canada once for all, has again entered the path which leads to progress and prosperity.

However, there is an event over which there can exist no discrepancy of views and feeling in this assembly, an event which has given us great joy: it is the birth last August, of a child who is entitled to the affection of all Canadians, I refer to the birth of the Hon. George St. Lawrence Neufize Ponsonby. With regard to this happy event, all the members of this hon. house, I feel certain, associate themselves with my humble person in expressing to His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Bessborough and to his gracious spouse, the Baroness of Neufize, our sincerest congratulations and in formulating for their son, the Hon. George St. Lawrence Neufize Ponsonby, our best and most sincere wishes of happiness. May they rest assured that all Canadians whatever may be their country of origin and French Canadians in particular, have been deeply moved by the thoughtfulness of Their Excellencies in giving to this noble descendant of two glorious families, from France and England, immediately after the name of His British Majesty, that of St. Lawrence the name of our river which, owing to its beauty and immense flow of water, its resources and the variety of the landscape of its shores, the innumerable and great acts of heroism it has witnessed, is really worthy of being designated as royal and deserves to be truly associated with the name of His British Majesty whose empire is so vast that the sun never sets over it. This name can only be a good omen, because the St. Lawrence has been the channel over which floated the flag of Montcalm and Wolfe, it was the course followed by our heroic missionaries and our bold explorers. Who can foretell, in the course of his life, what the future has in store for this young Canadian, may he not some day be called upon by the Canadians, his fellow-countrymen—in keeping with the treaty of Westminster—to preside over the destinies of the country of his birth and become one of the successors, at Rideau Hall, to His Excellency the present Governor General, thus fulfilling the sincerest wish of all.

Such thoughts lead to others with reference to Her Excellency Lady Bessborough, the Baroness Roberte de Neufize. It is, I believe, the first time, since new France has become a possession of Great Britain, that a