

in the speech, as having been appointed by His Excellency during the recess, no mention is made of the commission with regard to prohibition. If His Excellency had mentioned everything in his speech the hon. the leader of the Opposition would have had nothing to say to-day, and we should not have had the charm of listening to him as we have done for the last half hour. It was not entirely for that reason that the omission was made, as the hon. gentleman may well understand. It is not the custom of His Excellency in addressing Parliament from the Throne to announce executive measures which are in course of completion but which have not yet been entirely completed. I think that before the hon. gentleman's criticisms have reached print in all probability that commission will have been appointed and will be prepared to enter on its duties. It would have been more satisfactory if we had been able to announce the appointment of that commission in the speech I admit, but the acquiescence of certain persons whose services it is desirable to obtain in connection with that commission, made it necessary that for a few days the announcement of the commission should be delayed. Considering as I have said, that the criticisms which the hon. gentleman applied to the Address were limited, were courteous, and were such as we could concur in, with the exceptions of the few instances I have mentioned, I will not attempt to detain the House longer with a reply. I cannot close without expressing in the fullest sense on the part of the members on this side of the House, concurrence in the views which he expressed concerning the calamity which has befallen the Sovereign of this country. Every person who has a spark of patriotism or humanity in his bosom must agree with those views. I am glad that the hon. gentleman has expressed our feeling in such elegant and eloquent terms, for we on this side of the House can heartily join him. I think it will be the duty of the House at an early stage of the session to manifest on its own behalf some expression of the profound sorrow and sympathy which is felt throughout this country, at the death of the Duke of Clarence, and which I am sure is deeply felt by members on both sides of the House, with our Sovereign Lady the Queen and their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales on the occasion of this bereavement,—a bereavement which is not theirs alone, but which is the bereavement of the entire Empire.

Sir JOHN THOMPSON moved :

That the said resolution be referred to a special committee composed of Sir Adolphe Caron, Mr. Northrup, Mr. Bain (Soulanges), and the mover, to prepare and report the draft of an Address in answer to the speech of His Excellency the Governor General to both Houses of Parliament.

Motion agreed to.

Sir JOHN THOMPSON, from the committee, reported the draft of an Address, which was read the first and second times, and ordered to be engrossed, and to be presented to His Excellency by such members of the House as are of the Honourable the Privy Council.

SUPPLY.

Mr. FOSTER moved :

That this House will, on Friday next, resolve itself into a committee to consider of a Supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

Motion agreed to.

WAYS AND MEANS.

Mr. FOSTER moved :

That this House will, on Friday next, resolve itself into a Committee to consider of the Ways and Means for raising the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

Motion agreed to.

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEES.

Sir JOHN THOMPSON moved :

That a Special Committee of seven members be appointed to prepare and report with all convenient speed, Lists of Members to compose the Select Standing Committees ordered by the House on Thursday last, the 25th instant, to be composed of Sir John Thompson, Sir Adolphe Caron, Sir Richard Cartwright, and Messrs. Costigan, Bowell, Laurier and Mills (Bothwell).

Motion agreed to.

DEBATES COMMITTEE.

Mr. BOWELL. It is usual at the earliest period of the session to appoint a committee to supervise the Debates of the House, and, with the consent of the House, and waiving the usual notice, I beg leave to move :

That a Select Committee be 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. Beausoleil, Béchard, Cameron, Charlton, Davin, Desjardins (Hochelega), Innes, LaRivière, Prior, Scriver, Skinner, Somerville, Taylor, Weldon, and White (Cardwell).

I may mention that this is the same committee as that appointed last year.

Motion agreed to.

GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S WARRANTS.

Mr. FOSTER. I beg, in accordance with the Consolidated Revenue and Audit Act, to lay on the Table of the House, statements of the Governor General's Warrants issued since the closing of the last session of Parliament, and of the expenditures made thereon. I hope my hon. friend opposite will not be too severe in his criticism of the amount.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I would suggest, as a matter of convenience, and I give notice to the hon. gentleman, that I think I shall move, and, I presume, he will have no objection, that the items referred to in these Governor General's Warrants be referred to the Committee on Public Accounts, along with the ordinary items. They are a class of items which ought, I think, to go to that committee.

THE FAVOURED NATIONS' CLAUSE.

Mr. EDGAR asked, 1. Whether Her Majesty's Government in London have denounced or terminated certain provisions of the treaties between Great Britain on the one part, and Belgium and the German Zollverein of the other parts, as requested in the Address to Her Majesty, passed last Session by the Canadian Parliament? 2. Whether Her Majesty's Government in London have assented to the proposition contained in such Address, that "the continuation of the restrictions imposed upon Canada and other portions of the Empire by the so-called 'favoured nations' clause' creates an unnecessary and unjustifiable obstruction"?