

ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE SPEECH  
FROM THE THRONE—*Con.*

*Graham, Hon. G. P.* (Renfrew South)—491.

A general criticism of the Government, 491-2. Shells referred to, 493-8. Recruiting referred to, 498-501. Naval policy referred to, 502-5.

*Hazen, Hon. J. D.* (Minister of Marine and Fisheries)—184.

Congratulates Mr. Speaker on his election and the mover and seconder of Address, 184. Mr. Clark has made certain representations in regard to delays that may have occurred between the time when the Canadian troops are enlisted and the time when they actually get into the firing line. I would like to say a few words on that, 84-5. The hon. member for the city of St. John holds the Government responsible for the high freight rates because, as he suggests, the members of the Administration had been spending too much time in addressing recruiting meetings, 185-6. Military and naval requirements must be paramount, rough and ready though their demands often are; and they must be served fully at the cost of all other considerations. I now wish to say a few words regarding the regular transportation service inaugurated for carrying supplies and munitions of war for the British Government, 187-193. My hon. friend from St. John dealt with the question of the conduct of the Shell Committee, of which General Bertram was Chairman. I do not intend to follow him all through his argument, and his address on this subject, but I do intend to take up one or two points in connection with the question, 193-9. I now pass on to refer to a few other matters in connection with some subjects that were dealt with by hon. gentlemen opposite. First, I desire to refer to the statement made by the hon. member for St. John with regard to the investigation held by Sir Charles Davidson into the purchase before the war of the submarines at Seattle, for use in British Columbia waters, 200-211. The hon. member for Edmonton (Mr. Oliver) referred to another matter of great importance, that is, the pensions paid to Canadian soldiers, 211-215. There are one or two other matters with which I would like to deal. My hon. friend the member for St. John made certain references to the extension of the term of Parliament. My hon. friend from Gloucester also referred to it, 215-17. The hon. member for Richmond, N.S., spoke the other night about the evidences of patronage in connection with shell matters in Cape Breton and more particularly in connection with the appointment of inspectors. My hon. friend stated that nobody could be appointed as an inspector unless he had a recommendation from the Borden Club or some other political organization there. I am not quoting my hon. friend's exact words but that was the effect of them. What are the facts, 217-18.

*Hughes, Hon. Sir Sam* (Minister of Militia and Defence)—287.

I wish to deal, as briefly as possible and yet as fully as possible, with some of

ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE SPEECH  
FROM THE THRONE—*Con.*

the statements that have been made by gentlemen on the other side—possibly by gentlemen on both sides—as to the impatience of the troops to get across the water, 288. Reference has been made to machine guns. That subject, in fact, has been discussed very fully in the House, and I am sure every one here will agree with me that this is one topic that ought not to be openly discussed in Parliament, 289. I have also observed that some question was raised in this debate about Colt pistols and Colt machine guns. As this is a Canadian matter, I wish to give the fullest information at once, 290-1. At this point I may be permitted to state briefly where our soldiers are stationed. At the present time we have about 60,000 soldiers in France, nearly 60,000 in England, and the balance of 250,000 odd training in Canada. We have three divisions at the front, and a fourth is in course of preparation. Other troops are ready in Canada to cross to England, and the troops in England are getting ready to cross to France. We trust that in a very short time we shall have the different units, the artillery, infantry, army medical corps and army service corps complete for the four divisions at the front, 291-2. I wish to take up for a few moments that very-much-discussed question in days gone by, the Ross rifle, 292-3. My good friend from Carleton, N.E. (Mr. Carvell), in the course of his address yesterday, trusted that I would raise the veil, with regard to shells, and explain some party politics in that connection in my own county. I will do so with the very greatest pleasure, 293. Militia appointment referred to, 294. I now come to a very interesting part of the discussion, namely, the Shell Committee. And here let me frankly admit to the House that it is my baby; I am the father of the concern, be it for good or be it for bad, and I purpose sticking to it as long as it has a button left on its jacket, 295-303.

*Knowles, W. E.* (Moosejaw)—423.

Allusion made to the desire of the West for free wheat and agricultural implements and to the speech of Mr. Pugsley, 423. I am not a Conservative, and I am almost sure that I never will be, but I would think it my duty to uphold the hands of the Prime Minister at this time, 424. To extend the life of Parliament is a very serious thing to do anyway, and a somewhat cheeky thing, 425-6. Transportation of wheat referred to, 427-32. I wish to say a word about this dirty seed grain, 432-4. The greatest problem in this country, during and after the war, will be the problem of producing wealth, 435.

*Kyte, G. W.* (Richmond, N.S.)—138.

The Government of which the Minister of Finance is such a distinguished member is not doing its share in the practice of economy and thus relieve as far as possible the burdens of the people, 138.