

protection of our Inshore Fisheries by the extension of our present system of Marine Police.

The measure submitted to you last Session for the consolidation of the Statutes and for the introduction into the North-West Territories of a more simple and economical system for the transfer of land will be again laid before you for consideration and legislative action. The Acts of last Session will be found to be included in the first of those measures.

You will also be asked to consider the expediency of improving the judiciary system which obtains in those Territories.

Your attention will be invited to the propriety of amending the law relating to the business of the office of Queen's Printer and of providing for the more satisfactory working of the present system of Government and Parliamentary printing.

A numerical census of the North-West Territories has been taken and a measure based thereon for the representation of the people in Parliament will be laid before you.

Other measures will be laid before you, and among them will be found Bills for providing for better mode of trial of claims against the Crown, for regulating Post Office Savings Banks in British Columbia and the North-West Territories, for expediting the issue of patents for Indian Lands, for the administration of the rights of the Crown in the foreshores of the Dominion, for the establishment of an Experimental Farm, and for the amendment of the Chinese Immigration Act.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons :

The accounts for the past year will be laid before you. You will find that the estimate of receipts has been fully realized ; but I regret to say that the outbreak in the North-West has added largely to the expenditure of the country.

The Estimates for the ensuing year will be submitted to you. They have been prepared with due regard to economy and the requirements of the public service.

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate,

Gentlemen of the House of Commons :

I commend these several subjects and the others which may engage your attention to your best consideration, and I earnestly trust that the result of your deliberations may, under the Divine Blessing, conduce to the advancement and prosperity of Canada.

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

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEES.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD moved :

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 Immigration 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.

Motion agreed to.

REPORT PRESENTED.

Mr. SPEAKER laid on the Table of the House the Report of the Joint Librarians of Parliament.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD moved the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to; and House adjourned at 4.45 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

FRIDAY, 26th February, 1886.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

PRAYERS.

ADDRESS IN ANSWER TO HIS EXCELLENCY'S SPEECH.

The House proceeded to the consideration of His Excellency's Speech at the opening of the Session.

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker: I have had the honor of being selected from among the new members of this House, to move the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. Before entering upon such remarks as I may be enabled to make briefly upon some of the points referred to in the Speech, I desire to crave from Your House the indulgence which has usually been granted to those gentlemen who, in years past, have occupied the position which I am called upon to occupy to-day. The first paragraph of His Excellency's Speech, refers to the excellent harvest of last year, and to the substantial progress and prosperity of the country. While I heartily agree with the language expressed by His Excellency, I do not for a moment deny that all over the country, all over the civilised world to-day, all over the civilised world for a number of years past, commercial depression has to a greater or less extent existed. In the Mother Country, Great Britain, with its vast resources, with its great wealth, with the large amount of capital it has invested in various manufactories, we find, to-day, Sir, that there is great distress existing among its people and among the laboring class particularly. That is the condition of things which exists and has continued to exist in that great country, although it has to-day the same trade policy which it has had for years past, that which is known as a free trade policy. In the United States of America, which borders on the Dominion—in that great republic, with a policy somewhat similar to our own, the same state of affairs has existed and continues to exist to-day, to a greater or less extent, in the same way as it has existed in other civilised countries of the world. It would be strange indeed, Sir, if we in this new country should be free from all these great commercial depressions. They have existed among us to some extent; and yet, Sir, I feel that it is true, as stated in the first paragraph of the Speech, that we are to-day having prosperity and substantial progress in this country. I know, Sir, that those who take exception to the National Policy, which is the policy of the Dominion to-day, point with their fingers to the closed factories which are to be found in various portions of the Dominion, and claim that those factories are closed in consequence of the trade policy which prevails in this country. I contend, Sir, that while the general commercial depression may, to a certain extent, account for the closing of those factories, yet that, as a rule, they have been closed because those who entered into those various enterprises entered into them without sufficient capital to carry on their work successfully. In the city of St. John, a portion of the constituency which has sent me to represent them in this Parliament, we have a large establishment for the manufacture of cotton goods. It was built some two, three or four years ago, and we looked for great things from its erection. It, Sir, has been closed, and the silence within its walls and the absence of the men who were employed in it are pointed to as evidences that the policy which has been adopted by the Dominion has failed entirely. The truth, Sir, is that the proprietors of that factory commenced business on entirely too small capital. All the money which was raised for the purpose of constructing that building and carrying on