

So far the parliament of Canada have not entrusted the executive government of that country with full executive authority. Technically, no doubt, the issue of licenses in the Yukon district was in the Lieutenant Governor of the North-west Territories. The boundaries of these territories are not confined to a limited area by anything contained in the North-west Territories Act. There were no settlers in the Yukon district at the time the government was instituted there, nor have there been until a very recent period. Practically the Yukon country is to day more effectually separated from the North-west Territories than the government of the province of Ontario is from the North-west Territories. It is well nigh inaccessible to the government of that country. In fact, they could exercise no effective jurisdiction in the territory without doing what we find people doing every day who are going thither from the provinces of Canada, they would be obliged to go through the province of British Columbia to reach that territory and to exercise any jurisdiction over it. That being the condition of things, the government did not think, nor did any one suppose that it could be regarded as any of the functions of the government of the North-west Territories, as my hon. friend has suggested, nor could we regard it as any encroachment upon the authority of the government of the North-west Territories to write the Lieutenant Governor that it was not desirable that licenses should be issued by him to parties going into the Yukon district, which is nearly 2,000 miles from the seat of government in the North-west Territories. It was thought better that that matter should be left in abeyance, and that the government of the North-west Territories should practically confine their business of government to the district over which they have for several years exercised authority, and that the condition of things in the Yukon should be left to this parliament to deal with during the present session. There will be submitted to parliament this session a bill which I trust will become law, for the purpose of providing a system of government in the Yukon district, and to the authorities of that district will be entrusted so much power as it is felt that they can usefully claim and effectively exercise. I may say to my hon. friend that there is no objection to bringing down any papers which the public interest will permit that are in the hands of the gov-

ernment. I understand that no licenses have been issued in the Yukon district since this subject has been under consideration, and I do not think any injustice has been done to the North-west Territories in asking the Lieutenant Governor of that country not to give his assent to the giving of licenses that were to operate within the Yukon district. My hon. friend will see that the riot and disorder which might be created by the sale of liquor in that country under existing circumstances when the government felt it was responsible for the exercise of control and could exercise no control, might be serious to those who had gone to the Yukon, and detrimental to the future of that country, and that any revenue the North-west government could gain from such a source would be far more than counterbalanced by the difficulties that might arise in consequence.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—Can my hon. friend inform the House who is exercising at the present time the office of Lieutenant Governor of the North-west Territories. One cannot fail to observe the fact that there is a Lieutenant Governor whose resignation we understand is in the hands of the government, but which has not been accepted for reasons better known to my hon. friend than to this House. And we also find at the same time an administrator of that government exercising presumably the functions of Lieutenant Governor. Hence we have in the territories two officials exercising presumably all the functions pertaining to that particular office. For some time it has been a matter of considerable conjecture, throughout that western country the reasons why the resignation of the Lieutenant Governor has not been accepted, we are fully aware that the government has tendered that high and important office to several gentlemen, and it has been declined apparently with thanks. We also desire to know how long the declinations of hon. gentlemen belonging to the liberal party are to be continued in regard to this particular office, how long that office is to be hawked about the country and tendered to various gentlemen occupying high positions in that party and how long the dual position so to speak, is to be maintained of our having a Lieutenant Governor there and also of having an administrator. It also appears to me to be quite an anomaly that as certain functions are vested by reason of the North-west