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simplicity of heart, and their steadfast faith. At this time, we are deeply conscious of what all these have meant to us, to our country, to the British commonwealth of nations, and to the world."

Mr. ROBERT GARDINER (Acadia): It is indeed with pleasure that I rise to support the motion that an address be presented to His Majesty congratulating him upon the twenty-fifth anniversary of his accession to the throne. This motion has been so well spoken to by the acting leader of the house (Sir George Perley) and the leader of the opposition (Mr. Mackenzie King) that it is not necessary for me to do more than say that on this historic occasion I am sure we as members of the house can forget our differences of opinion in order that we may speak with a united voice. I am certain it is the wish of all that His Majesty will retain his health and strength so that he may long remain in the prominent position which he now occupies.

Motion agreed to.

Sir GEORGE PERLEY: I moved seconded by Mr. Mackenzie King:

That a message be sent to the Senate informing their honours that this house has passed an address to His Most Excellent Majesty the King expressing loyal and respectful congratulations on the twenty-fifth anniversary of his accession to the throne, and requesting their honours to unite with this house in the said address hereto attached,

And that the clerk of the house do carry the said message to the Senate.

Motion agreed to.

PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAM

WORKS, UNDERTAKINGS AND GUARANTEES OF RAILWAY EQUIPMENT SECURITIES TO CREATE EMPLOYMENT

Hon. H. A. STEWART (Minister of Public Works) moved that the house go into committee at the next sitting to consider the following proposed resolution:

That it is expedient to bring in a measure to create employment by public works and undertakings throughout Canada, and to authorize the government to guarantee equipment securities of the Canadian National Railways and Canadian Pacific Railway Company in the amount of fifteen million dollars.

He said: His Excellency the Governor General, having been made acquainted with the subject matter of this resolution, recommends it to the favourable consideration of the house.

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Leader of the Opposition): Perhaps this is the appropriate time to draw to the atten-

tion of the house what seems to me to be a curious procedure with respect to this particular motion. It is in the name of the Prime Minister, but it relates to a measure that is to create employment by public works and undertakings throughout Canada, and also to authorize the government to guarantee equipment securities of the Canadian National Railways and Canadian Pacific Railway Company in the amount of \$15,000,000. My first observation is that the motion relates to two separate and distinct measures, and this house should have two different bills presented to it, one which will deal with the question of the creation of employment by public works and undertakings and the other which relates to the guarantees to the railways of their equipment securities.

I further think the correct procedure would be that any measure relating to the construction of public works should be brought in by the Minister of Public Works, and that a measure relating to the guarantee of equipment securities of railways should be introduced by the Minister of Railways. I would much rather say what I am about to say with the Prime Minister (Mr. Bennett) present, but it is necessary to speak at once in order to bring out what I think is important in the matter of the procedure that we have been adopting of late. I cannot understand how it is, with the Prime Minister absent, and necessarily so, from the house since February 22, and, as we have been told by the acting leader of the government (Sir George Perley), quite unable to take and, I am sure, not taking any part in the business of the government, so many measures should continue to be introduced in the house in the name of the Prime Minister.

The theory of responsible government is that it is a ministry that is responsible, the ministers are responsible. The Prime Minister is simply the first among equals. I do think that if the theory of responsible government is to be adhered to, measures that immediately affect particular departments of government should appear in the names of the ministers who are responsible for those departments and who are the only ones present in parliament to discuss those measures. I would draw the attention of my right hon. friend to the fact that since February 22 we have had submitted to this house or introduced a resolution with respect to the Canadian grain board which is in the name of the Prime Minister. I think that measure would more properly appear in the name of either the Minister of Trade and Commerce or the Minister of Agriculture. Then