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H-10-8

OTTAWA February 9th, 1946 1946

MR. PICKERSGILL.

Re: Opening of Second Session Twentieth Parliament, March 14, 1946.

Confirming our telephone conversation of this morning:

The Honourable J.H.King, Speaker of the Senate, has asked me in a letter just received, what form the official Opening of the next Session of Parliament will take.

You will recall that the Opening of the last Session was on what was described as "a formal basis, but not full-dress". This involved the following order-of-dress:

Gentlemen - Service dress or morning dress.

Ladies - Afternoon dress with hats.

The Governor General was escorted to Parliament Hill, and a salute of guns was fired on his arrival.

The question which Dr. King would like to have determined as soon as possible, is whether the next Opening will follow the lines indicated above or will be on a full-dress prewar basis.

Dr. King also inquires whether it is likely that a new Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod will be appointed sufficiently in advance of the Opening to have charge of the ceremonial details. If this cannot be done, of course, Mr. C.H.Larose, who functioned very satisfactorily at the last Opening can be expected to render the same service again.

Con.

will will be the same

W.L.M. King Papers, Memoranda and Notes, 1940-1950, MG 26 J 4, Volume 311, pages C214937-C215273