

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—Yes.

The motion was agreed to.

REPATRIATION OF THE HUNDRETH REGIMENT.

MOTION.

Hon. Mr. BOULTON moved

That an humble address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, praying that His Excellency will cause to be laid before the Senate, any correspondence that has taken place between the government and the home authorities re repatriation of the 100th Royal Canadian Regiment.

He said: Hon. gentlemen will recollect that a year ago numerous petitions, numbering, I think altogether some three hundred, from all parts of Canada, signed by all classes, by men in the highest authority in the land by military men and all classes generally, there has seldom been a more popular petition presented for any purpose. It was sent to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, after whom the regiment is called, &c., praying that the Royal Canadian Regiment, which was formed in 1858 and which has since been absorbed in the territorial system and its identity lost so far as being a Canadian Regiment is concerned, might be repatriated and that the depot might be established in Canada, so that the ranks of that regiment shall be filled with Canadians in the same way that ranks of Scotch regiments are filled with Scotchmen and the ranks of Irish regiments filled with Irishmen, and so on, that the two battalions might represent the territorial district of Canada for service abroad. Now that was presented a year ago and there does not seem to have been any advancement made upon the lines of the petition. I ask the government to-day what correspondence has taken place, and express the hope on behalf of the petitioners that some steps will be taken to satisfy the object of the petition. The depot of a regiment consists of two companies where recruits are trained before joining their regiments, and about 10 recruits per month or 60 every six months are necessary to keep up the ranks of a regiment. On no more appropriate occasion could this question be brought up, following as it does the Jubilee celebration of last year, and following, as it does, the determination of Great Britain to increase her effective forces by something like 23,000 men for the purpose of maintaining the

prestige of the empire and enforcing what the British government believes is a necessity in the government of the world, and securing the co-operation of the nations in the betterment of the world's government. The opportunity, as I have said, is a good one now, to offer to supply one of the battalions with the recruits in order that Canadians, whether officers or men, may have an opportunity of performing service in the broad field of the British Empire, and sharing with the rest of the British Empire in the glory and renown that sheds such lustre upon so many names in the past history of the world. The British government has been liberal in giving commissions from our military college, and from the militia regiments, so that quite a number of officers from Canada are scattered throughout the British service. Now, hon. gentlemen, there is a very strong reason why the prayer of this petition should be granted by the British government, and there is every indication that the British government are quite in sympathy with the movement that was inaugurated by the petitioners for the repatriation of this regiment. The British government, apparently, have only been waiting for some disposition to be shown on the part of the Canadian government that they are in accord with the prayer of the petitioners. The history of the 100th Regiment is an exceedingly interesting one. There have, in the history of the British army, been six different 100th regiments, raised upon six different occasions, and they have been reduced and disbanded in consequence of the cessation of warfare or the reorganization of the service. The first regiment was raised in 1761 and was on active service for some three years and was disbanded. There was another regiment raised in 1784, and that served for a number of years and was disbanded. Then there was another regiment—the 100th Regiment was raised in 1795; it was raised by the Marquis of Huntley, son of the Duchess of Richmond, who was commissioned to raise a regiment, to be called the 100th. It was composed of Highlanders, and afterwards became the celebrated 92nd Gordon Highlanders which have taken such a famous position in the history of British arms. It was raised under some peculiar circumstances. It was at the commencement of the French war of that date, and the Marquis of Huntley did not succeed in getting the number of men that was nec-