

presented. In Durban we met the Australian and New Zealand delegates. The Australian delegates were eight in number; Senator the Hon. Thomas Givens, president of the Senate since 1913; Mr. J. G. Bayley, a Nationalist, representing Oxley, Queensland; Senator the Hon. J. F. Guthrie, representing Victoria. Senator Guthrie is also a very well known wool expert; he is the man who wrote the article on that topic in the *Encyclopædia Britannica*. Also the Hon. W. C. Hill, of the Country party, Minister of Works and Railways, representing Echuca, Victoria; Dr. W. R. N. Maloney, representing Labour in Victoria-Melbourne division; Senator the Hon. J. E. Ogden, Labour, representing Tasmania, ex-Treasurer and Minister of Mines and Labour, Tasmania; Major-General the Hon. Sir Granville Ryrie, K.C.M.G., a Nationalist, representing Warringah, New South Wales—who has a long and distinguished military record in the Boer war and the Great War—and Mr. W. A. Gale, C.M.G., Clerk of the House of Representatives, and Honorary Secretary of the Australian Branch of the Empire Parliamentary Association.

The New Zealand delegates were: Sir John P. Luke, C.M.G., of the Government party, representing Wellington North; the Hon. A. F. Hawke, representing Otago in the legislative council; Mr. James Horn, Liberal, representing Wakatipu in the House of Representatives; Mr. E. J. Howard, Labour, representing Christchurch South, in the House of Representatives. We were billeted in Durban with local residents. That was the case in quite a number of places in South Africa. The idea was not prompted by any sense of economy; it was rather to give us the opportunity of meeting the South Africans in their own homes—not only the men, but their wives and families—on more intimate terms than would otherwise be possible. It is a splendid idea, and if a similar delegation ever comes to this country I hope the same plan will be followed, because you can get more information in that way than in any other.

A civic banquet was tendered to the visiting delegates in the Royal hotel, and there was a meeting in the town hall. We were taken around and shown the city and suburbs. It is a wonderful city; it is simply marvellous what the comparatively few white residents in South Africa have done. Their town halls or city halls surpass by far anything we have in Canada. We were also shown the new Durban graving dock which is just about completed. The cost of this dock will be £1,300,000. A good deal of the labour has been done by convicts, and for that labour

[Mr. McQuarrie.]

one shilling and threepence per man per day is charged up against the work. Now, a few days ago the hon. member for Southeast Grey (Miss Macphail) brought in a resolution dealing with the question of convict labour, and I have been given the credit of talking it out. As a matter of fact I wanted to discuss the subject but did not have the opportunity to do so because so many others got in ahead of me. The Durban dock was a remarkable example of the extent to which this kind of thing may be carried. In other places in South Africa—in the gold and diamond mines, for instance—convict labour is extensively used. I am opposed to that kind of thing. I am opposed also to bonusing convicts of certain types—dope peddlers for instance—who happen to be confined in our penal institutions. I would be prepared to support some measure of relief to families of convicts in necessitous cases where such a course would be considered proper, but I was not prepared to support my hon. friend's resolution as presented. It was not concrete in its character, it was not definite; we would not know what it would lead to. They do use convict labour extensively in South Africa, and I was very sorry to see it. Some of the members from other parts of the empire, too, seemed to be opposed to it.

The hospitality extended to us by our hosts was very cordial and very generous indeed; they did everything they possibly could to take care of us. My host gave up his whole time to me while I was in Durban, and did all in his power to make my stay there pleasant.

The next day we had lunch with the administrator of the province of Natal, Sir George Plowman, C.M.G., and there was another civic reception at night. We left Durban on September 2, on a special train, and that was really the beginning of our trip. The train was in charge of the secretary of the Empire Parliamentary Association, South Africa branch, Mr. E. M. O. Clough, C.M.G., who is also clerk of the Union Senate, and I must say that it was splendidly equipped; everything was provided for our convenience. They even had shower baths, a library, a writing room and a dark room for developing photographs. There was a post office on the train, and a supply of newspapers was brought to us at every point. The train also had a medical officer, a postmaster, an official photographer, a train despatcher and various other officials, all very competent.

The programme was a very extensive one and was carried out strictly according to schedule. Certain members of the South