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OFFICE OF THE
HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA,
CANADA HOUSE,
LONDON, S.W.1.
29th January, 1940.

No. 77.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to my telegram No. 76 of January 20th on the subject of reduction of Parliamentary business during the war, at the beginning of which I informed you that no steps had been taken by the United Kingdom Parliament to limit the introduction of Government measures.

2. Following the same question, I asked the United Kingdom authorities whether they could give me further information as regards the instructions, if any, issued by the Government to Departments to restrict the introduction of bills, and I have now ascertained that no general instructions have, since the outbreak of war, been given to the Departments to limit the introduction of Government measures into Parliament. The position is briefly as follows. In August last the customary procedure was followed, and the Departments sent in their legislative proposals for the 1939-40 Session, and these were classified and the classification received Ministerial approval. This approval did not extend to the form or substance of the particular Bills.

3. On the outbreak of war, the United Kingdom Parliament was kept busy with the passage of a large volume of War Emergency Legislation; it was generally

The Right Honourable
The Secretary of State
for External Affairs,
OTTAWA.

W.L.M. King Papers, Memoranda and Notes, 1940-1950,
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