

the whole work from Moncton to the Pacific ocean will be under vigorous construction.

The unexpected influx of immigrants from oriental countries into British Columbia aroused a strong feeling of opposition. A member of my government has been deputed to proceed to Japan to confer with the Japanese government on this subject.

The sudden and unexpected collapse of the great cantilever bridge in course of construction across the St. Lawrence, in the vicinity of Quebec, may be regarded as a national calamity and the event has evoked much sorrow for the lives which were lost on that occasion. A commission has been appointed to inquire into the causes which led to the disaster. When received, the report of the commission will be laid before you. It will be necessary to devise means for the completion of the bridge within a reasonable time.

It is most gratifying to find that, notwithstanding the large reductions of postal rates, which have been made, the revenue of the Post Office Department has continued to increase rapidly. The large receipts of this branch of the government business will enable the department to make still more liberal provision for the extension of postal facilities throughout the Dominion.

The time has arrived when the public interest requires that telegraph and telephone companies holding federal charters should be placed under government control. A Bill will be introduced for that purpose.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

The public accounts for the nine months ending March 31 last will be laid before you without delay.

The estimates for the coming fiscal year will be submitted for your approval at an early date.

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate:

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

Among the measures to be submitted to you is a Bill for the extension of the boundaries of Manitoba and of other provinces; also a Bill to provide for the issue of Government Annuities for old age; a Bill respecting Insurance; and Bills to amend the Election Act and the Dominion Lands Act.

I commend to your thoughtful consideration the several subjects to which I have referred and I trust that in your deliberations you may be guided by Divine light.

Rt. Hon. Sir WILFRID LAURIER (Prime Minister) moved that the speech of His Excellency the Governor General to both Houses of Parliament of the Dominion

of Canada be taken into consideration on Monday next.

Mr. L. R. BORDEN. I would ask the Prime Minister: when may we expect that the Treaty with France will be laid upon the table of the House?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. To-day.

Motion agreed to.

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEES.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER moved:

That a special committee of seven members be appointed to prepare a report with all convenient speed of a list of the members to compose the select standing committees of this House under rule No. 10; said committee to be composed of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Mr. R. L. Borden, Mr. Paterson, Mr. Fielding, Mr. Calvert, Mr. Haggart and Mr. Taylor.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. Would it be convenient to have that committee called together at a very early day. There is some work which it could undertake immediately, and which if done now might be of advantage in shortening the session.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. Early next week.

Motion agreed to.

FRANCO-CANADIAN TRADE TREATY.

Hon. W. S. FIELDING (Minister of Finance) presented a message from His Excellency the Governor General.

Mr. SPEAKER read the message, which was as follows:

GREY:

The Governor General transmits to the House of Commons a copy of a convention respecting the commercial relations between France and Canada, entered into at Paris on the 19th day of September, 1907, between His Majesty and the President of the French Republic.

Government House,

Ottawa, November 28, 1907.

REPORTS PRESENTED.

Report of the Joint Librarians of parliament.—Mr. Speaker.

Public accounts of Canada for the fiscal period of nine months ending March 31, 1907.—Mr. Fielding.

The Auditor General's Report, vol. iii.—Mr. Fielding. He said: There are two other volumes which I hope to bring down very soon, but as this volume is ready, we presented it at the earliest possible moment.

Annual reports of the Department of Inland Revenue—Excise, Weights and Measures, and Adulteration of Food.

On motion of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, House adjourned at 4 p.m.