

SOME LIVELY DEBATES AHEAD

Titles Controversy, Penalties for Deserters, Divorce, Among Subjects

INTERNMENT OF ALIENS

Minimum Wage Board, Villages for Soldiers, Novitiate and Defaulters

(Staff Correspondence of The Globe.)

Ottawa, Feb. 20.—Coming debates in the House of Commons cast their shadows before, in that members have filed notices of proposed resolutions which will renew the "titles" controversy, bring the question of penalties for deserters under the M.S.A. to the fore, and ask for a committee of members to consider some better and cheaper method of considering applications for divorce than by Parliament.

A resolution to be presented by Mr. H. S. Clements (Comox-Alberni) will ask that the Government clearly define its policy with regard to the internment of enemy aliens, the deportation of undesirable persons and the treatment of soldiers.

Minimum Wage Board.

Mr. J. H. Burnham (Peterboro') will propose that a minimum wage board be established in connection with the Department of Labor and that a standard of living cost should be set by such a board and maintained throughout Canada and no lower system of remuneration be permitted, no matter how cheap labor or labor's products might be elsewhere. This cost, Mr. Burnham proposes, should be reviewed once a year to let employers know what the labor costs and to prevent justifiable discontent and unrest among the workers.

Major H. M. Mowat (Parkdale) believes that a good way to assist disabled and other soldiers to meet the future with confidence will be for the Dominion to erect a village near some city in each Province, with residences and workshops, so that these men could engage in the production of goods not hitherto made in Canada, as well as in producing objects of art and literature. This would give them a source of income beyond their pensions. Mr. Mowat's idea, as set forth in his proposed resolution, is that such communities should be self-supporting after the initial outlay, that the occupants should have the option of purchasing their homes, and that widows and orphans of soldiers should also find these homes available.

The Novitiate Matter.

Sir Sam Hughes (Victoria) has two resolutions. The first says:—"In view of the statements made public in relation to the Guelph Novitiate during the month of June, 1918, and the circumstances and facts concerning these and other similar charges concerning the evasion by young men and the connivance of others to defeat the ends and aims of the Military Service Act and other acts and orders relating to the upbuilding of the military forces of Canada, it is advisable that a select committee of this House be appointed to inquire into the matter, with full authority to examine witnesses under oath, to pay necessary expenses and to report to this House."

Uniform Penalties on Slackers.

This Sir Sam follows by another resolution asking for a uniform system of administering the law, with uniform penalties, in relation to defaulters, deserters, slackers, evaders and others amenable, saying that it is only the due of the soldiers who did go overseas.

Mr. Nickle again brings forward a resolution asking that Parliament send an address to his Majesty the King praying him "graciously to refrain from conferring any titles upon your subjects domiciled or living in Canada."

The resolution specifically states that it has no reference to professional or vocational appellations conferred in respect to commissions issued to persons in military or naval service, or engaged in the administration of justice.

Mr. Nickle it is also who asks for a committee to consider less expensive procedure for the granting of divorce.

The Minister of Railways and Canals will move in Committee of the Whole that \$200,000 per annum should be paid for ten consecutive years from April 1 next to aid actual construction work for the protection, safety and convenience of the public at level highway crossings of railways.