

PARLIAMENT OPENS FIRST WAR SESSION

Speech From Throne Most Momentous Read in His- tory of Dominion.

LOYALTY OF CANADIANS

Acknowledged by Governor Gen- eral to be All That Could Be Desired.

Ottawa, Aug. 18. The preliminaries to a session with the opening of the war session of the Canadian parliament were quickly disposed of this afternoon. They were both impressive and brief. It was exactly twelve minutes past three o'clock when the Black Rod tapped upon the door of the commons chamber and summoned the faithful commons to the upper house, there to hear his royal highness the governor general read the speech from the throne. By half-past three the impressive proceedings in the upper house had terminated and the members were back in their places. At 3:47 o'clock Premier Borden moved the adjournment of the house until tomorrow when the debate on the speech from the throne will be taken up. It is not expected that it will last much past the afternoon. The government will then proceed with the introduction of the four emergency bills which are required so as to give authority to deal not only with the present situation, but with any which may arise.

"Sir," Not "Mr."

The gravity of the occasion was relieved by but one incident. When Sir Robert Borden rose to move the introduction of the time-worn first measure in regard to the administration of oaths, a bill which never gets past the first reading, but which is a reiteration of the rights of the people over the king, he announced that it was seconded by Mr. Foster. At once there were cries of "Sir George, Sir George." Mr. Foster smiled and blushed, while the premier laughingly accepted the correction. A minute later Speaker Sproule made the same error, and again the house, with much gusto, corrected him.

A Khaki Session.

The scene in the senate chamber was not marked by the usual brilliancy. It was truly a "khaki" session. The Duke of Connaught, instead of his brilliant marshal's uniform, was clad in a serviceable brown khaki, as were his aides and the local officers who were present. The ladies, instead of being allowed to take the senate floor, had to be contented with seats in the gallery. There were no evening gowns and none of the gorgeous Paris costumes, which are always a feature of the ceremonies in the senate.

Why Are Ten To

In the morning it looked as though there would be a very slim attendance of members, but they poured into the city on the noon trains, and when the house assembled there were but few vacant seats.

Situation Discussed.

Both Lady Borden and Lady Laurier were seated in the speaker's gallery of the commons, where they were noticed to greet one another with exceptional heartiness. After the house rose, Premier Borden and Sir Wilfrid Laurier held a whispered conference on the floor of the house, ostensibly discussing the business of the session, while ministers and members surged around them, earnestly discussing the stirring events of the past few weeks and the likely developments.

The fact that notice has already been given of the war appropriation of fifty million dollars and other emergency measures increases the belief that the session may wind up by Saturday night, or at least some time next week.

SPEECH FROM THRONE

The speech from the throne was as follows:

"Honorable gentlemen of the senate; gentlemen of the House of Commons—Very grave events, vitally affecting the interests of His Majesty's Dominion have transpired since prorogation. The unfortunate outbreak of war made it immediately imperative for my ministers to take extraordinary measures for the defence of Canada and for the maintenance of the honor and integrity of our empire.

"With respect to such of these measures as may require the sanction and approval of parliament the necessary legislative proposals will be submitted for your consideration. Other bills authorizing additional measures which are essential for the public safety will also be presented to you without delay.

War Expenditures

"Gentlemen of the House of Commons. Estimates will be laid before you to provide for expenditure which has been or may be caused by the outbreak of hostilities.

Honorable gentlemen of the senate; Gentlemen of the House of Commons: The critical period into which we have just entered has aroused to the full the patriotism and loyalty which have always actuated the Canadian people.

"From every province, and in fact, from every community, the response to the call of duty has been all that could be desired. The spirit which thus animates Canada, inspires also His Majesty's dominions throughout the world, and we may be assured that united action to repel the common danger will not fail to strengthen the ties that bind together these vast dominions in the possession and enjoyment of the blessings of British liberty.

"As representative of His Majesty the King, I must add my expression of thanks and admiration for the splendid spirit of patriotism and generosity that has been displayed throughout the length and breadth of the dominions."

The debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne, it is expected, will not be proceeded with until Wednesday afternoon.

These measures to come before the house include a bill for financing the Canadian expeditionary forces and carrying out home defences, a currency bill to legalize the steps taken to relieve banks, a bill to confer upon the governor-general all necessary power for meeting such situations as may arise.