

in all weighty and arduous affairs which may the State and Defence of Our Dominion of Canada concern. We have thought fit to summon you to the Senate of Our said Dominion; and We do command you, that all difficulties and excuses whatsoever laying aside, you be and appear, for the purposes aforesaid, in the Senate of Our said Dominion, at all times whensoever and wheresoever Our Parliament may be in Our said Dominion convoked and holden; and this you are in no wise to omit.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent, and the Great Seal of Canada to be hereunto affixed.

WITNESS: Our Right Trusty and Well-beloved Julian Hedworth George, Baron Byng of Vimy, General on the Retired List and in the Reserve of Officers of Our Army; Knight Grand Cross of Our Most Honourable Order of the Bath; Knight Grand Cross of Our Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George; Member of Our Royal Victorian Order, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Our Dominion of Canada.

At Our Government House, in Our City of OTTAWA, in Our Dominion of Canada, this twenty-seventh day of October, in the year of Our Lord, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty-two, and in the Thirteenth year of Our Reign.

By Command,

W. L. MACKENZIE KING,
for Secretary of State of Canada.

Ordered, That the same be placed upon the Journals.

The Honourable Mr. Turgeon came to the Table and took and subscribed the Oath prescribed by law, which was administered by the Clerk of the Senate, one of the Commissioners appointed for that purpose, and took his seat as a Member of the Senate.

His Honour the Speaker informed the Senate that the Honourable Mr. Turgeon had made and subscribed the Declaration of Qualification required of him by *The British North America Act, 1867*, in the presence of the Clerk of the Senate, one of the Commissioners appointed to receive and witness the same.

His Honour the Speaker informed the Senate that he had received a communication from the Governor General's Secretary, in the following words:—

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SECRETARY

OTTAWA, 10th January, 1923.

SIR,—I have the honour to inform you that His Excellency the Governor General will proceed to the Senate Chamber to open the Session of the Dominion Parliament on Wednesday, the 31st January, at three o'clock.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. F. SLADEN,
Governor General's Secretary.

The Honourable
The Speaker of the Senate,
Ottawa.

The Senate was adjourned during pleasure.

After a while, His Excellency the Governor General having come, and being seated on the Throne,

His Honour the Speaker commanded the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod to proceed to the House of Commons and acquaint that House that,—It is His Excellency the Governor General's pleasure that they attend him immediately in the Senate.

Who being come, with their Speaker,

His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to open the Session by a Gracious Speech to both Houses, as follows:—

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

I am glad to welcome you to a return to your parliamentary duties. In the interval which has elapsed since the last session, I have had the pleasure of extending my travels throughout Western Canada and as far as the Territory of the Yukon. The cordial hospitality everywhere enjoyed by Her Excellency and myself will be long remembered.

It is gratifying to note that in a period of world-wide trade depression following the Great War, Canada has made substantial progress towards recovery.

The increase in the volume of trade, the diminution of unemployment as compared with last winter, and the restoration of our currency to a position of equality with that of the neighbouring Republic, are indications of the improved situation. The economic condition in European countries makes for embarrassment the world over. A much better situation in Europe will be necessary before we can expect a complete restoration of confidence in business affairs here. In the meantime, the Dominion has much reason for satisfaction with the improvement that has taken place, and with the many evidences of a returning prosperity.

The desirability of obtaining the best available terms for the admission of our products in foreign markets has engaged the attention of the Ministry. Conventions have been made to govern trade relations between France and Canada and between Italy and Canada. These Conventions will be submitted for your approval.

Since last session, acting under a Statute of 1919, with amendments thereto, an Order in Council has been passed appointing a Board of Directors to be known as The Board of Directors of the Canadian National Railway Company, having under its control and operation the various lines which go to make up the system, and also the Canadian Government Merchant Marine. The various units of the system are being consolidated as rapidly as possible. This, it is expected, will increase the efficiency and decrease the cost of operation.

It having been represented that an amalgamation of interests of shipping companies and vessel owners upon the Great Lakes has operated to control freight rates and insurance upon grain shipments in a manner which has deprived agriculturists of much of the benefit to which they were entitled, as well as led to discrimination against Canadian ports and harbours, a Royal Commission has been appointed to investigate and report upon this alleged combine.

A bill will be submitted to you to safeguard the interests of consumers and producers from undue enhancement of prices or unfair restriction of trade by combines, monopolies, trusts, or mergers.

As a consequence of an agreement entered into between the Government of Great Britain and members of the Canadian Government, the law with respect to the landing of imported animals in Great Britain has been amended by the British Parliament. The removal thereby effected of the embargo on Canadian cattle entering the United Kingdom is a source of general satisfaction. It has materially improved the outlook as regards live stock, and should lead to the re-establishment of a profitable trade with Great Britain.

The adverse conditions with which agriculture generally is confronted in many parts of Canada, despite the abundant crops of the past year, render it desirable that a special committee with powers to make recommendations, be appointed to look into various agricultural matters such as the mixing of grain in private terminal elevators, the marketing of farm products, the development of the live stock industry, and the possibilities of further diversification in our Canadian agriculture.

The matter of securing an increasing flow of desirable settlers to develop the large areas still available for cultivation in Canada has had the serious consideration of my advisers. Additional advertising and general publicity campaigns have been launched in Great Britain and in the United States and, as opportunity offers, will be extended to other lands from which a suitable class of settlers may be attracted. In other particulars, the activities of the Department of Immigration and Colonization are being expanded.

The time for the usual decennial revision of the *Bank Act* having arrived, a measure for that purpose will be laid before you.

Having regard to the recent decennial census, a readjustment of the representation of the Provinces in the House of Commons, as required by the *British North America Act*, is also due. A Bill will be introduced for that purpose.

In pursuance of the announcement made in the Speech from the Throne at the opening of last Session a Postal Conference with the United States was held at Ottawa in the month of December last. The results of the Conference were embodied in a new Postal Convention which has been in force since January 1st. It is a pleasure to record that arrangements were made not only for extending and improving the international postal service, but also for the conveyance through the United States of parcel mail from Canada to all South American countries.

The Government of France has graciously offered to the Canadian Government a tract of land of 250 acres on Vimy Ridge, at the site selected for the erection by Canada of a monument commemorating the exploits of Canadian troops in the Great War. This gift has been gratefully accepted, and a bill approving the agreement has been duly introduced in the French Parliament. An appropriate resolution expressing Canada's appreciation of the action of the French Government will be offered for your acceptance.

During the course of the session your attention will be invited to other agreements of an international character and significance, and to other matters requiring legislation.

Members of the House of Commons:

The Public Accounts for the last fiscal year, and the Estimates for the coming year, will be submitted at an early date. A strict economy in all public expenditures continues to be a necessity of the existing financial situation.

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

Since you last assembled, Canada has harvested the largest wheat crop in its history, and an abundance of other kinds of grain and fruits. May the Divine Providence which has vouchsafed this basis of our material prosperity guide and bless all your deliberations.

His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to retire.

The Commons withdrew.

After some time the Senate was resumed.

PRAYERS.

The Honourable Mr. Dandurand presented to the Senate a Bill intituled: "An Act relating to Railways."

The said Bill was read the first time.

The Honourable the Speaker informed the Senate that a copy of the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General had been left in his hands.

The same was read by His Honour the Speaker.

Ordered, That the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General be taken into consideration to-morrow.

On motion of the Honourable Mr. Dandurand, it was

Ordered, That all the Senators present during this Session be appointed a Committee to consider the Orders and Customs of the Senate and Privileges of Parliament, and that the said Committee have leave to meet in the Senate Chamber when and as often as they please.

On motion of the Honourable Mr. Dandurand, it was

Ordered, That pursuant to Rule 77, the following Senators, to wit: The Honourable Sir James Lougheed, The Honourable Messieurs Belcourt, Barnard, Daniel, Prowse, Robertson, Tanner, Watson, Willoughby and the Mover, be appointed a Committee of Selection to nominate Senators to serve on the several Standing Committees during the present Session; and to report with all convenient speed the names of the Senators so nominated.

The Senate adjourned.