

ment to defray the expenses of the Public Service.

In the name of the Commons, I present to Your Excellency the following Bill:

"An Act for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money for the public service of the financial years ending respectively the 31st March, 1918, and the 31st March, 1919."

To which Bill I humbly request Your Excellency's assent.

To this Bill the Clerk of the Senate, by command of His Excellency the Governor General, did thereupon say:

In His Majesty's name, His Excellency the Governor General thanks His Loyal Subjects, accepts their benevolence and assents to this Bill.

After which His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to close the First Session of the Thirteenth Parliament of the Dominion of Canada with the following Speech:

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate:

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

In releasing you from further attendance at the present session, I am mindful of the diligence with which you have discharged the important duties devolving upon you in these critical days.

A new campaign in the war having opened since you entered upon your labours, the enemy, now freed from threatened attack in the East, has struck with the force of vastly augmented numbers on the Western front for the primary purpose of destroying the British armies and with the ultimate object of gaining a decision before reinforcements can arrive. In the face of tremendous odds the soldiers of our Empire gallantly supported by our Allies, have withstood this assault with a courage and tenacity which command our admiration and gratitude. It is anticipated that the attack will be renewed in still greater force and intensity during the coming summer and autumn.

Portions of the Canadian forces, already engaged in meeting this attack, have rendered distinguished service.

The readjustments which you have authorized in the military service law will provide the reinforcements and reserves so urgently needed to support and maintain all arms of the service at full strength, without unduly interfering with the demands of essential production.

Meanwhile arrangements for a national registration are being advanced, in order that the human power of the Dominion, especially such as is ineligible for military service, may be more effectively organized to maintain the productive capacity of the country, which is exceeded in importance only by our military needs. For the like purpose, action has been taken as a

war measure to enjoin and enforce upon all persons the duty of active employment in useful work. The assistance you have rendered towards the encouragement and co-ordination of the Provincial Labour Bureaus will assist materially in solving the important problems of employment and distribution of labour.

Measures you have adopted for increasing the revenues by further and wider taxation will doubtless result in a more equitable distribution respecting the Public Service which will un- of financial burdens among the people.

You have given your assent to enactments questionably promote its efficiency both at the seat of government and throughout the Dominion.

In creating the Department of Immigration and Colonization and the Department of Soldiers Civil Re-establishment, you have provided the means for coping effectively with vital problems which will inevitably arise during and after demobilization.

The extension of the franchise to women will notably broaden the basis and strengthen the stability of government; and we may justly anticipate that it will exercise an important and wholesome influence upon many vital social problems confronting the nation.

The Daylight Saving Act has already justified the expectations you entertained of its attendant benefits.

The trade of the country has maintained its already remarkable development, and my advisers anticipate that necessary financial arrangements to facilitate the continued exportation of surplus products will be consummated at an early date.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

I thank you in His Majesty's name for the liberal provision you have made for the needs of the Public Service and for the prosecution of the war.

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate:

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

The sinister purpose of the enemy has been still more clearly revealed by recent events and especially by the military domination which he has founded upon his success in the Eastern Theatre. The unmistakable menace to our national liberties and safety, thus disclosed and emphasized, cannot fail to strengthen the resolution of our people, who abide the issue with unshaken faith in their high cause, consecrated by the sacrifice of those who have died that freedom, faith and justice may endure. I pray that their strength may be sustained by Almighty God.

The Speaker of the Senate then said:

It is His Excellency the Governor General's will and pleasure that this Parliament be prorogued until Thursday, the 4th day of July next, to be here holden, and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued until Thursday, the 4th day of July next.