

## THE SENATE

THURSDAY, December 18, 1947.

The Senate met at 3 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

### CANADIAN TRADE RELATIONS COMMITTEE

#### ADDITION TO PERSONNEL

Hon. WISHART McL. ROBERTSON: Honourable senators, with leave of the Senate I would move that the name of the honourable Senator Crerar be added to the list of senators serving on the Standing Committee on Canadian Trade Relations.

The motion was agreed to.

### AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS ACT

#### POSTPONEMENT OF MOTION FOR CONTINUATION UNTIL MARCH 31, 1948

On the notice of motion by Hon. Mr. Robertson:

That, whereas section eleven of the Agricultural Products Act, being chapter ten of the Statutes of 1947, provides that subject as therein provided, that act shall expire on the thirty-first day of December, one thousand nine hundred and forty-seven, if parliament meets during November or December, one thousand nine hundred and forty-seven, but if parliament does not so meet it shall expire on the sixtieth day after parliament first meets during the year one thousand nine hundred and forty-eight or on the thirty-first day of March, one thousand nine hundred and forty-eight, whichever date is the earlier: Provided that, if at any time while that act is in force, addresses are presented to the Governor General by the Senate and House of Commons respectively, praying that that act should be continued in force for a further period, not in any case exceeding one year, from the time at which it would otherwise expire and the Governor in Council so orders, that act shall continue in force for that further period.

And whereas it is considered desirable to continue the said act in force until the thirty-first day of March, one thousand nine hundred and forty-eight;

The following address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General of Canada:

To His Excellency Field Marshal The Right Honourable Viscount Alexander of Tunis, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Companion of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, Companion of the Distinguished Service Order, upon whom has been conferred the Decoration of the Military Cross,

one of His Majesty's Aides-de-Camp General, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief in and over Canada.

May it Please Your Excellency:

We, His Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Senate of Canada, in parliament assembled, respectfully approach Your Excellency praying that the Agricultural Products Act be continued in force until the thirty-first day of March, one thousand nine hundred and forty-eight.

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON: Honourable senators, I am asking that the house allow this motion, of which notice has been on our order paper for some days past, to stand until tomorrow. The reason is that I do not want to proceed with it until I am in a position to give the Senate all the information that I can obtain as to the current negotiations for a trade agreement with the United Kingdom on food products. A statement is being made in another place today, and I may make a supplementary statement here at the opening of tomorrow's sitting, before we reach the deadline within which the motion for continuation of the Agricultural Products Act must be dealt with. Honourable members know that that deadline is the last day that parliament is in session before the Christmas recess. I have been notified by some senators that they wish to speak on the motion, but would prefer to wait until they have the information which I hope to be able to present tomorrow. I therefore ask that the notice of motion stand until tomorrow.

The notice of motion stands.

### THE CHRISTMAS RECESS

On the Orders of the Day:

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON: Honourable senators, for the benefit of those who may not be here tomorrow, I wish to announce that unless unforeseen circumstances arise it is the intention to move, when the House of Commons adjourns this week, that it stand adjourned until Monday, January 26, 1948. I shall move tomorrow that when the Senate adjourns it stand adjourned until Tuesday, January 27, 1948, at 8 o'clock in the evening. I am proposing that we resume a day later than the other house because I recall that in the past some honourable members, I think perhaps those from Prince Edward Island, have found it very inconvenient to get from their homes to Ottawa on a Monday.

### SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

#### ADDRESS IN REPLY

The Senate resumed from yesterday, the consideration of His Excellency the Governor