

Governor General's Speech

railways upon the basis of fair competition, secured in such manner as will avoid extravagant and harmful duplication of services.

Since the last session of parliament, my ministers have entered into a treaty with the government of the United States of America for the completion of the St. Lawrence Waterway. Upon its ratification by the duly constituted authority of the United States, this treaty will be submitted to you for approval.

A committee has been appointed by order in council to inquire into the operation of the Pensions Act so that my ministers may have before them all information necessary to determine whether further action may be required to discharge the country's obligation to those who served in the great war.

The problem of unemployment continues to receive the anxious attention of my ministers. Under the powers granted them at the last session of parliament, they have been able to develop further, in coöperation with the provinces and municipalities, a scheme of direct relief to be put into operation during the autumn and winter months to the extent required by prevailing conditions. Plans for the reëstablishment of the unemployed in various parts of the country are in preparation and will become operative as soon as, in the opinion of my ministers, the public expenditure incident thereto will be productive of commensurate benefits.

It is a matter of gratification to us all that in those large areas of the west, where, during recent successive years, crop failure was followed by widespread distress, this season's bountiful harvest forecasts greatly improved conditions and makes possible a corresponding reduction of relief measures.

In accordance with the provisions of the British North America Act, you will be invited to consider a bill for the redistribution of representation of the provinces in the House of Commons.

There will also be brought before you for consideration other measures which my ministers deem to be in the public interest.

You will be invited to extend Canadian bank charters for one year in order that parliament may be informed of the results of the proposed world economic and financial conference, to be called to consider financial, economic and monetary problems, before undertaking the decennial revision of the Bank Act.

When you have considered the matters requiring your immediate attention, it is proposed that parliament shall adjourn, until early in the new year, then to proceed with the ordinary business of the session.

Members of the House of Commons:

The public accounts for the last fiscal year and the estimates for the coming year will be submitted after parliament has reassembled. These estimates will reflect the continuance of the policy of my ministers to exercise every economy, compatible with the proper administration of the state, until more favourable economic conditions shall have materially augmented the current national revenues.

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

While the economic situation still weighs heavily upon all classes of the community, there are at last definite signs that the acuteness of the depression is passing. I rejoice that the

[Mr. Speaker.]

wisdom of your steadfast policy of retrenchment and constructive development, which has ameliorated the hardships of Canadians and maintained the enviable financial position of this country, is still more fully manifest with approaching prosperity. The strength of our financial structure, the resourcefulness of agriculture, and the integrity of industry have enabled us to take quick and profitable advantage of improved conditions. The ratification of empire trade agreements and your approval of the proposed economies and reforms in railway transportation are means by which Canada's favoured position will be more fully secured among the nations of the world.

The unity, fortitude and capacity of the Canadian people, without which all your labours would have been in vain, shall be now the foundation upon which, with coöperation and faith, we will build a Canada greater than we have yet known. I pray that Divine Providence may guide you in your exalted task.

Right Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Prime Minister) moved:

That the speech of His Excellency the Governor General to both houses of parliament be taken into consideration on Monday next.

Motion agreed to.

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEES

Right Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Prime Minister) moved:

That a special committee be appointed to prepare and report with all convenient speed, lists of members to compose the select standing committees of this house under standing order 63, said committee to be composed of Messrs. Rhodes, Dupré, Simpson (Algoma West), Stewart (Edmonton West), and Casgrain.

Motion agreed to.

INTERNAL ECONOMY COMMISSION

Right Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Prime Minister) presented the following message from His Excellency the Governor General:

The Governor General transmits to the House of Commons a certified copy of an approved minute of council, appointing the Honourable E. N. Rhodes, Minister of Finance; the Honourable D. M. Sutherland, Minister of National Defence; the Honourable T. G. Murphy, Minister of the Interior and Superintendent General of Indian Affairs; the Honourable Maurice Dupré, Solicitor General, to act with the Speaker of the House of Commons as commissioners for the purposes and under the provisions of chapter 145 of the revised statutes of Canada, 1927, intitled, "An Act respecting the House of Commons."

DEPUTY SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the house that the Sergeant-at-Arms, with my approval, has appointed Lieutenant J. L. Williams to be his deputy during the present session of parliament.

On motion of Mr. Bennett the house adjourned at 4.10 p.m.