

home improvements. In accordance with an undertaking given at the last session, this section was proclaimed for small holders under the Veterans' Land Act with effect from the first of this year.

You will be asked to consider amendments to the Railway Act relating to the elimination of level crossings. The Government also hopes to lay before you during the present session a measure to consolidate the legislation affecting the Canadian National Railways.

Amendments to the Electricity and Fluid Exportation Act and a measure to control works which affect the normal flow of rivers which cross the international boundary will be proposed for the purpose of ensuring that natural resources are developed in the best interests of the Canadian public.

You will be asked to consider a measure to implement a convention between Canada and the United States relating to fisheries research on the Great Lakes.

You will also be asked to consider legislation to provide facilities for loans to fishermen similar to those provided to farmers by the Farm Improvement Loans Act.

The Government will submit amendments to the War Veterans Allowance Act to raise the basic rates as well as the ceiling on permissible incomes of recipients of allowances.

You will also be asked to consider amendments to the Blind Persons Act to lower the age of eligibility and raise the income ceilings.

A measure which will provide for amendments to the National Defence Act and the Defence Services Pension Act will be placed before you.

Legislation will be proposed to replace the Meat and Canned Foods Act by measures to provide for the inspection of meat and for the establishment of standards for all agricultural products.

You will be asked to approve a convention signed by the members of the International Civil Aviation Organization which fixes the responsibility for damage caused to third parties by foreign aircraft.

A joint committee of both houses will be proposed to examine, in the light of the Municipal Grants Act and possible amendments thereto, the financial and other relationships of the Government and the Federal District Commission with the City of Ottawa and neighbouring municipalities.

Among other measures you will be asked to consider amendments to the Defence Production Act, the Government Employees Compensation Act, the Financial Administration Act, the Public Service Superannuation Act, the Historic Sites and Monuments Act, the Radio Act, the Territorial Lands Act, the

Library of Parliament Act, the Canada Grain Act, the Northwest Territories Act, the Yukon Act, the Canada Shipping Act, the Emergency Gold Mining Assistance Act and to the Municipal Grants Act.

Members of the House of Commons:

You will be asked to make provision for the public service for the next fiscal year.

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

I pray that Divine Providence may guide you in the discharge of your responsibilities.

The House of Commons withdrew.

His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to retire.

The sitting of the Senate was resumed.

RAILWAYS BILL

FIRST READING

Hon. Mr. Godbout (for Hon. Mr. Macdonald) presented Bill A, an Act relating to railways. The bill was read the first time.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

CONSIDERATION ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

On motion of Hon. Mr. Godbout (for Hon. Mr. Macdonald), it was ordered that the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General be taken into consideration on Wednesday next.

COMMITTEE ON ORDERS AND PRIVILEGES

APPOINTMENT

Hon. Mr. Godbout (for Hon. Mr. Macdonald), with leave of the Senate, moved:

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.

The motion was agreed to.

COMMITTEE OF SELECTION

APPOINTMENT

Hon. Mr. Godbout (for Hon. Mr. Macdonald), with leave of the Senate, moved:

That pursuant to Rule 77, the following senators, to wit: the Honourable Senators Aseltine, Beaubien, Gouin, Haig, Hugessen, Macdonald, McDonald, Quinn and Taylor 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 motion was agreed to.

The Senate adjourned until Tuesday, January 11, at 8 p.m.