

CANADA

The Debates of the Senate

OFFICIAL REPORT

THE SENATE

Speaker: Hon. THOMAS VIEN

Monday, March 19, 1945.

The Parliament of Canada having been summoned by Proclamation of the Governor General to meet this day for the dispatch of business:

The Senate met at 2.30 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers.

OPENING OF THE SESSION

The Hon. the SPEAKER informed the Senate that he had received a communication from the Governor General's Secretary informing him that His Excellency the Governor General would arrive at the Main Entrance of the Houses of Parliament at 3 p.m., and, when it had been signified that all was in readiness, would proceed to the Senate Chamber to open the Sixth Session of the Nineteenth Parliament of Canada.

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

At three o'clock His Excellency the Governor General proceeded to the Senate Chamber and took his seat upon the Throne. His Excellency was pleased to command the attendance of the House of Commons, and that House being come, with their Speaker, His Excellency was pleased to open the Sixth Session of the Nineteenth Parliament of Canada with the following speech:

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

You have been called into session for the dispatch of business which it is in the national interest to conclude before the expiration of the present Parliament.

Since I last addressed you, the war in Europe and in Asia has continued with relentless fury. In Europe, the Allied forces are rapidly advancing to what there is every reason to believe will be decisive victory. Canada is prouder than ever of the splendid achievements of her fighting forces, at sea, on land, and in the air.

The Government has accepted the invitation to Canada to send representatives to a Confer-

ence of the United Nations to be held on April 25, at San Francisco, to prepare a charter for a general international organization for the maintenance of international peace and security. My ministers are of the opinion that the Canadian delegation at the San Francisco Conference should be assured of the widest possible measure of support from Parliament. A joint resolution of both Houses will accordingly be submitted for your approval.

Members of the House of Commons:

The term of the present Parliament will have expired on April 17. A general election will be held shortly thereafter. You will be asked to make the necessary financial provisions for the effective conduct of the war, and to meet the ordinary expenses of government, for the period between the end of the present fiscal year and the opening of a new Parliament.

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

May Divine Providence guide your deliberations in this solemn moment in the history of the world.

The House of Commons withdrew.

His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to retire.

The sitting of the Senate was resumed.

RAILWAY BILL

FIRST READING

Bill A, an Act relating to Railways.—Hon. Mr. King.

CONSIDERATION OF HIS EXCELLENCY'S SPEECH

On motion of Hon. Mr. King, it was ordered that the speech of His Excellency the Governor General be taken into consideration on Wednesday next.

COMMITTEE ON ORDERS AND PRIVILEGES

Hon. Mr. KING 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.

The Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 3 p.m.