

THE SENATE

Tuesday, October 12, 1976

OPENING OF SECOND SESSION THIRTIETH PARLIAMENT

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

The Senate met at 1.45 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers.

COMMUNICATION FROM GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SECRETARY

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, I have received the following communication:

GOVERNMENT HOUSE
OTTAWA

October 12, 1976

Madam,

I have the honour to inform you that His Excellency the Governor General will arrive at the main entrance of the Parliament Buildings at 1.40 p.m. on this day, Tuesday, the 12th of October 1976, and when it has been signified that all is in readiness, will proceed to the Chamber of the Senate to open formally the Second Session of the Thirtieth Parliament of Canada.

I have the honour to be,
Madam,

Your obedient servant,
Esmond Butler

Secretary to the Governor General.

The Honourable

The Speaker of the Senate,
Ottawa.

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

At 2 p.m. 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 Second Session of the Thirtieth Parliament of Canada with the following speech:

[Translation]

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

I have the honour to welcome you to the Second Session of the 30th Parliament of Canada.

I am proud to be able to speak with you once more after an absence occasioned by an affliction which forced my withdrawal from public life for a time.

I now have a better understanding of our human frailty, but I have also learned the depths of devotion of those who love us as well as the strength of the human will to survive.

I would like to take this opportunity to offer my thanks to all my fellow citizens who sent their best wishes for my health and who remembered me in their prayers.

The activities of this year have taken me from the grounds of Rideau Hall and across the country. Two of my engagements took me to Vancouver, for the United Nations Habitat conference, and to Montreal, for the Olympic Games.

The whole world was our guest for these two events, and I was struck by the contrast between those of us in Canada who are sometimes afflicted with morbid self-analysis, and those who come to us from other lands, and see Canada as a country truly blessed.

[Text]

For the Olympic games, the Queen and her family came to Quebec and Ontario, after a visit by Her Majesty and Prince Philip to Nova Scotia and New Brunswick; everywhere they received a warm welcome.

Next year, of course, Her Majesty will celebrate the Silver Jubilee of her accession to the Throne. She will be spending a few days in Ottawa to celebrate it with us, and to celebrate also the Jubilee of the appointment of the first Canadian-born Governor General in Canada, and the 10th anniversary of the foundation of the Order of Canada. This will be the seventh time in ten years that the Queen has visited Canada.

As we assemble in this historic place the day after Thanksgiving Day, it is fitting for all of us to pause and give thanks for the remarkable freedom we enjoy as Canadians, and for those human and natural resources which give Canada a favoured position among the nations of the world.

Because of the basic underlying strength of the economy, and because of the co-operation of the majority of Canadians which is making the anti-inflation program work, Canada has better reasons for confidence and optimism than has virtually any other nation. Our storehouse of natural resources, our food-producing ability, our labour and management skills present Canada with growth opportunities which are shared by