CANADA

Debates of the Senate

OFFICIAL REPORT

Thursday, January 14, 1960

OPENING OF THIRD SESSION TWENTY-FOURTH PARLIAMENT

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

The Senate met at 11 a.m.

Prayers.

COMMUNICATION FROM GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SECRETARY

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

GOVERNMENT HOUSE Ottawa

14th December, 1959

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that Their Excellencies the Governor General and Madame Vanier will arrive at the main entrance of the Houses of Parliament at 3.00 p.m. on Thursday, the 14th January, 1960. When it has been signified that all is in readiness, Their Excellencies will proceed to the Senate Chamber, where His Excellency will formally open the Third Session of the Twenty-fourth Parliament of Canada.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
Esmond Butler.

Secretary to the Governor General

The Honourable

The Speaker of the Senate, Ottawa

On motion of Hon. Mr. Aseltine, seconded by Hon. Mr. Brunt, the Senate adjourned until 2.50 p.m.

SECOND SITTING

The Senate met at 2.50 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers.

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 79955-1—1

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 Third Session of the Twenty-fourth Parliament of Canada with the following speech: Honourable Members of the Senate,

Members of the House of Commons,

I am happy to greet you as we meet for the first time at the opening of our Parliament.

My appointment as the representative of Her Majesty the Queen in Canada is an honour which moves me profoundly. I invoke Divine help to guide and strengthen me that I may serve well the Parliament and people of Canada in carrying out the trust confided to me by the Sovereign.

We will long cherish the memories of the presence of our gracious Queen and of His Royal Highness among us last summer. The warmth of the welcome given them throughout the country is an expression of the loyalty, devotion and affection of all Canadians. Our attachment to the Crown is a great unifying force. It will be my earnest endeavour to foster a spirit of harmony and confidence in all, irrespective of race or creed, in the achievement of our mighty destiny.

My Prime Minister looks forward to meeting with the leaders of the other commonwealth Governments early in May. The commonwealth is in a state of rapid constitutional development. During the course of the year Nigeria is to become an independent member following those constructive processes by which the commonwealth has set a lead in peaceful evolution of new nations from dependent territories.

We welcome the spirit which has made possible the progress of the past year in meetings between the leaders of great nations and we believe that with wisdom and patience the series of meetings arranged to commence in Paris in May can bring about the results which all desire. Canada will be prepared to assist wholeheartedly by consultation, particularly in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, with those immediately involved in these efforts to achieve just diplomatic settlements.