

An Act to amend The Civil Service Act, 1918.

An Act for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money for the public service of the financial years ending respectively the 31st of March, 1921, and the 31st March, 1922.

After which His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to close the fifth Session of the thirteenth Parliament of the Dominion of Canada with the following

SPEECH

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate,

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

I am glad to relieve you from further attendance in Parliament after a Session which has been marked by legislation of an important character.

Steps to increase the trade of the country have been taken by the ratification of commercial agreements with France and the British West Indies. It may be hoped that the latter agreement will result in strengthening the ties which bind together His Majesty's dominions.

Consequent on Canada's position as a member of the League of Nations, Acts have been passed to define Canadian nationals, and to authorize the ratification and carrying into effect of the Protocol accepting the Statute for the Permanent Court of International Justice.

The attempt to arrange for joint control by the Dominion and the Province of Ontario of the levels and flow of the Lake of the Woods water system having become abortive, by reason of a Bill concurrent to The Lake of the Woods Control Act failing to pass the Legislature of Ontario, legislation has been enacted declaring certain works in that system to be for the general advantage of Canada and providing for control by the Dominion in the public interest of all parts of the country having rights therein.

A Committee on Pensions, Insurance, and Re-establishment has given thorough reconsideration to these problems and their recommenda-

tions have been embodied in legislation which will make more adequate the assistance which the country owes to its ex-service men.

A Bill to regulate the grading of dairy produce has become law. This legislation should conduce to the more systematic and satisfactory marketing of a very important Canadian product with better results to both producer and consumer.

The Act to repeal the Conservation Act and to make provision for the carrying on by the appropriate departments of government of the necessary services hitherto conducted under the Commission of Conservation will result in a reduction of public charges which is so important at the present time.

A further step towards the solution of the problem of the National Railways has been taken in the passage of an Act by virtue of which possession and control of the Grand Trunk Railway System has been acquired and provision made for reviving the arbitration proceedings to ascertain the value of the stocks. A special committee has conducted an enquiry into certain phases of the problem of the operation of these railways.

The proposals as to revenue contained in the Appropriation Act will it is confidently hoped meet the necessities of the year with a minimum of burden on the people and on the conduct of industry.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

I thank you for the liberal provision you have made for the public service.

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate,

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

This is the last occasion I shall have the honour of addressing you as my term of office will have expired before you meet again.

May I assure you that I shall always retain a very real affection for Canada and its people and I shall watch your progress with the greatest interest in the sure belief that an ever increasing measure of happiness and prosperity will be the lot of the Dominion.