

THE ROYAL ASSENT

Mr. Speaker: I have the honour to inform the house that I have received the following communication:

Ottawa, April 3, 1965

Sir:

I have the honour to inform you that the Honourable Robert Taschereau, P.C., Chief Justice of Canada, in his capacity as deputy to His Excellency the Governor General will proceed to the Senate chamber at 2.15 a.m. today April 3, 1965 for the purpose of proroguing the second session of the 26th parliament of Canada.

I have the honour to be,
sir,

A. G. Cherrier

Assistant Secretary to the Governor General

Mr. Speaker: May I suggest that the sitting be suspended at the call of the Chair?

SITTING SUSPENDED

SITTING RESUMED

The house resumed at 2.25 a.m.

A message was delivered by Major C. R. Lamoureux, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, as follows:

Mr. Speaker, the Honourable the Deputy Governor General desires the immediate attendance of this honourable house in the chamber of the honourable the Senate.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker with the house went up to the Senate chamber.

In the Senate chamber the Deputy Governor General was pleased to give, in Her Majesty's name, the royal assent to the following bills:

An act to amend the Criminal Code (Habeas Corpus).

An act to incorporate Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada.

An act to establish a comprehensive program of old age pensions and supplementary benefits in Canada payable to and in respect of contributors.

An act to amend the Companies Act.

An act respecting the operation of certain established federal-provincial programs.

An act to incorporate World Mortgage Corporation.

To these bills the royal assent was pronounced by the Clerk of the Senate in the following words:

In Her Majesty's name, the Honourable the Deputy Governor General doth assent to these bills.

Then the Speaker of the House of Commons addressed the Deputy Governor General as follows:

May it please Your Honour:

The Commons of Canada have voted supplies required to enable the government to defray certain expenses of the public service.

Royal Assent

In the name of the Commons I present to Your Honour the following bills:

An Act for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money for the public service for the financial year ending the 31st March, 1966.

An Act for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money for the public service for the financial year ending the 31st March, 1965.

To which bills I humbly request Your Honour's assent.

To these bills the Clerk of the Senate, by command of the Deputy Governor General, did thereupon say:

In Her Majesty's name, the Deputy Governor General thanks her loyal subjects, accepts their benevolence, and assents to these bills.

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT

After which the Deputy Governor General was pleased to close the second session of the twenty sixth parliament of Canada with the following speech:

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

The second session of the twenty sixth parliament opened on February 18, 1964, and you have been in session for a longer time than any other parliament in our history. You have enacted much important legislation and approved many government actions of great significance for Canadians.

Canada was honoured by the presence of Her Majesty The Queen, and of His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh last October, when we commemorated the conferences held a century before which paved the way to confederation.

In the past year there was a very substantial increase in the number of people employed in Canada. Unemployment was reduced to the lowest level for many years. Economic growth has accelerated. The 1964 expansion in the gross national product was the largest percentage increase to be achieved since 1956. The incomes of Canadians have risen to new high levels. Exports have greatly improved, including particularly exports of manufactured products. Interest rates have been held at relatively low levels and monetary conditions have assisted business expansion. The government's budget deficit has been sharply reduced.

The first report of the economic council of Canada, analysing the great potentialities for the expansion of the Canadian economy between now and 1970, has been laid before you. My ministers are assessing the policies required to meet the challenge of these potentialities.

My government has agreed with the governments of all the provinces to recommend a measure whereby all amendments to the constitution of Canada will in future be enacted in Canada.

You have made an important reform by providing that independent commissions shall undertake the redistribution of electoral districts for the House of Commons, on a basis that will rectify many disparities in the representation of the people.

Following the recommendation of a special committee representative of all parties in the House of Commons, you have expressed your approval of a distinctive Canadian flag. By royal proclamation this flag, in the Canadian colours of red and white, and bearing the Canadian emblem of the