

Prorogation

An Act respecting the National Harbours Board.

An Act to amend The Unemployment Relief and Assistance Act, 1936.

An Act to amend The Copyright Amendment Act, 1931.

An Act for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money for the public service of the financial years ending respectively the 31st March, 1936, and the 31st March, 1937.

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

In His Majesty's name the deputy of His Excellency the Governor General doth assent to these bills.

Then the Honourable the Speaker of the House of Commons addressed the deputy of His Excellency the Governor General as follows:

May it Please your Excellency:

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

In the name of the Commons, I present to Your Excellency the following bill:—

An act for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money for the public service for the financial year ending March 31, 1937.

To which bill I humbly request Your Excellency's assent.

To this bill the Clerk of the Senate, by command of the deputy of His Excellency the Governor General did thereupon say:

In His Majesty's name, the deputy of His Excellency the Governor General thanks his loyal subjects, accepts their benevolence, and assents to this bill.

GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SPEECH

After which the deputy of His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to close the first session of the eighteenth parliament of the Dominion of Canada with the following speech:

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

In relieving you of your duties, I congratulate you upon the care and attention given the many far-reaching measures submitted for your consideration. Your labours have been arduous and exacting; they have, however, served to complete, almost in its entirety, the extensive program outlined in my speech at the opening of parliament.

The trade agreement concluded on Armistice day, 1935, between Canada and the United States of America, received your early approval, and its provisions have now been in force for some time. Legislation has been passed implementing the undertakings of the agreement and of the settlement of the trade dispute with Japan. Substantial reductions have been made in the rates of duty on implements of production in the agricultural industry, and on machinery in other basic industries, as well as on articles of domestic consumption. The pronounced increase of our trade during recent months is evidence of the beneficial effects of

[Mr. Mackenzie King.]

the government's fiscal policies. My ministers are continuing their efforts to expand trade with other countries.

Comprehensive measures have been enacted to effect a nation-wide cooperative effort to overcome conditions created by the long-continued existence of unprecedented unemployment, and to effect a more complete supervision of the expenditure of funds for purposes of relief. The National Employment Commission has been appointed, and has entered upon its duties. Appropriations have been made for projects to provide work, and to assist the provinces in the granting of direct relief. The government has been authorized to enter into agreements to expand industrial employment. Special provision has been made to supply work for single homeless men in relief camps, and the camps will be closed on July the first.

Provision has been made for aiding in the reestablishment of needy fishermen and for expanding the sale of Canadian fisheries products at home and in foreign markets.

The Bank of Canada Act has been revised so as to give to the government effective control of the central bank as well as a predominant interest in its ownership.

Existing legislation respecting the Canadian National Railways has been amended so as to provide for the appointment of a board of directors in a manner which will serve to afford a greater measure of governmental authority and responsibility to parliament.

Radio broadcasting in Canada has been made the subject of inquiry by a special committee of the House of Commons. The committee's recommendations have been embodied in legislation which provides for the carrying on of a national broadcasting service in Canada under a broadcasting corporation having complete control over all forms of broadcasting, whether public or private.

Provision has been made for the reorganization and consolidation of important departments and branches of the public service. The consolidation of certain existing departments into the Department of Mines and Resources and the Department of Transport, and the coordination of the administration of the national harbours, will greatly further the ends of efficiency and economy.

The royal commission appointed to inquire into conditions in the textile industry is continuing its investigation, and a royal commission has been appointed to conduct an investigation respecting the importation and distribution of anthracite coal.

The War Veterans Allowance Act has been amended to provide for special consideration to veterans having attained the age of fifty-five. A Veterans Assistance Commission Act has been passed with a view to securing more general employment of returned soldiers. Amendments have been made to the Pensions Act to simplify procedure and expedite the hearing of claims.

Amendments to the criminal code have been made, including the repeal of section 98, relating to unlawful associations.

Other important measures have been enacted.

The several opinions of the judges of the Supreme Court of Canada touching the validity, in whole or in part, of a number of measures enacted at the sessions of parlia-