

CANADA

Debates of the Senate

OFFICIAL REPORT

THE SENATE

Thursday, January 15, 1959

OPENING OF SECOND SESSION TWENTY-FOURTH PARLIAMENT

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

The Senate met at 10.30 a.m.
Prayers.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SECRETARY

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

GOVERNMENT HOUSE
Ottawa

December 17, 1958

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that His Excellency the Governor General will arrive at the main entrance of the Houses of Parliament at 3.00 p.m. on Thursday, the 15th January, 1959, and, when it has been signified that all is in readiness, will proceed to the Senate Chamber to open formally the Second Session of the Twenty-fourth Parliament of Canada.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your obedient servant,
Lionel Massey,
Secretary to the Governor General

The Honourable
The Speaker of the Senate,
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 Excellency was pleased to command the at-

tendance of the House of Commons, and, that House being come, with their Speaker, His Excellency was pleased to open the Second Session of the Twenty-fourth Parliament of Canada with the following speech:

Honourable Members of the Senate,

Members of the House of Commons,

I welcome you as you foregather to resume your parliamentary duties.

All Canadians look forward with the greatest pleasure to the forthcoming visit to Canada of Her Gracious Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness, the Prince Philip, on the occasion of the official opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway. It is particularly gratifying that Her Majesty also plans to visit all the provinces and the two territories in order to meet her Canadian subjects in many parts of our country.

Canada's close relations with the other countries of the commonwealth, and the sense of community of interest within this association of free nations itself, have been confirmed and vitalized by the recent visit of my Prime Minister to the commonwealth capitals of the United Kingdom, Pakistan, India, Ceylon, Malaya, Singapore, Australia and New Zealand. These consultations between heads of government provided an opportunity for an exchange of views on international questions, on the possibilities for expanding trade and on other problems of mutual concern.

Canadians recognize that the most pressing need of all nations is an enduring peace. My Government will continue to work steadfastly and in a spirit of genuine co-operation towards the settlement of outstanding issues which threaten that peace.

My ministers are concerned over recent developments in the Berlin situation. They deplore the attempt by the Soviet Union to abrogate unilaterally the inter-allied agreements relating to Berlin, and they believe that the freedom of West Berlin must be assured pending agreement on the establishment of a united and free Germany.

My ministers have been pleased to note that some advance has been made during the past year in the vital field of disarmament. The drafting of an agreement for the discontinuance of nuclear weapons tests is a hopeful beginning.