

In order to avert economic disaster to a large part of our population, my Ministers, under the terms of the Wheat Board Act, approved, for the current crop year, an initial payment for wheat as recommended by the Board.

The Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Plan will be continued, the experience of the past year having demonstrated its efficacy in improving the agricultural areas of the West.

Bills will be introduced to regulate Grain Exchanges along the lines laid down in the Report of the Royal Commission on Grain Marketing, to revise the Canada Grain Act, and to assist further in the marketing of farm products.

The Trans-Canada Airways will shortly provide a passenger service, in addition to the air mail and air express services already in operation. Preparations for the inauguration of the Transatlantic Air Service are being actively continued in collaboration with the Governments of the United Kingdom and of Ireland.

In order to implement the recommendations of the Royal Commission to Investigate the Penal System of Canada, a Bill to appoint a commission to administer the penitentiaries will be again introduced.

Other legislative proposals will be laid before you and proceeded with as time and opportunity offer.

Members of the House of Commons:

The estimates for the Public Service, together with the Public Accounts, will be laid before you.

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

In this critical time of the world's affairs, I pray that Divine Providence may guide and bless your deliberations.

On motion of Mr. Mackenzie King, it was ordered,—That the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General to both Houses of Parliament be taken into consideration on Monday next, and that this order have precedence over all other business except the introduction of Bills, until disposed of.

On motion of Mr. Mackenzie King, a Special Committee consisting of Messrs. Casselman, Gray, Mackenzie (Vancouver Centre), Power, and Woodsworth, was appointed to prepare and report, with all convenient speed, lists of members to compose the Standing Committees of this House under Standing Order 63.

Mr. Mackenzie King delivered a message from His Excellency the Governor General, which was read by Mr. Speaker, as follows:—

TWEEDSMUIR.

The Governor General transmits to the House of Commons a certified copy of an approved Minute of Council appointing the Honourable T. A. Crerar, Minister of Mines and Resources, the Right Honourable Ernest Lapointe, Minister of Justice, the Honourable Charles A. Dunning, Minister of Finance, and the Honourable W. D. Euler, Minister of Trade and Commerce, to act with the Speaker of the House of Commons as Commissioners for the purposes and under the provisions of Chapter 145 of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927, intituled: "An Act respecting the House of Commons."

Government House, Ottawa,
12th January, 1939