

CANADA

The Debates of the Senate

OFFICIAL REPORT

THE SENATE

Speaker: Hon. JAMES H. KING, P.C.

Thursday, January 30, 1947.

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

The Senate met at 11.30 a.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers.

OPENING OF THE SESSION

The Hon. the SPEAKER informed the Senate that he had received a communication from the Governor General's Secretary informing him that His Excellency the Governor General would arrive at the Main Entrance of the Houses of Parliament at 3 p.m., and, when it had been signified that all was in readiness, would proceed to the Senate Chamber to open the Third Session of the Twentieth Parliament of Canada.

NEW SENATORS INTRODUCED

The following newly-appointed senators were severally introduced and took their seats:

Hon. Paul Henri Bouffard, K.C., of Quebec, introduced by Hon. Wishart McL. Robertson and Hon. J. F. Fafard.

Hon. James Gray Turgeon, of Vancouver, British Columbia, introduced by Hon. Wishart McL. Robertson and Hon. C. J. Veniot.

Hon. Stanley Stewart McKeen, O.B.E., of Vancouver, British Columbia, introduced by Hon. Wishart McL. Robertson and Hon. Norman P. Lambert.

The Senate adjourned until 2.30 p.m.

SECOND SITTING

The Senate met at 2.30 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

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 attendance of the House of Commons, and that House being come, with their Speaker, His Excellency was pleased to open the Third Session of the Twentieth Parliament of Canada with the following speech:

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

Since my arrival in Canada, I have visited all nine provinces. Today, for the first time, I meet with you at the opening of a session of parliament. I should like at once to say how greatly I value this new association. I prize it the more in that it permits, in a time of peace, a continuance of the memorable association I had with Canada's armed forces at a time of war.

This new year has happily been marked by a lessening of international tension. During 1946, despite many disappointments, a notable advance was made towards world recovery. In the making of peace and in the tasks of world reconstruction, Canada has assumed a full share of responsibility. No country holds, today, a higher place in the esteem of other nations.

The establishment of enduring peace continues to be the first concern of all nations. It is the corner-stone of our external policy.

Unsettled world conditions, following inevitably in the wake of war, have rendered the making of the peace exceedingly difficult. Some progress has been made. After prolonged conferences, treaties of peace with Italy, Finland, Roumania, Hungary and Bulgaria have been agreed upon, and are about to be signed. You will be asked to approve the treaties to which Canada becomes a signatory.

The Allied Nations have now entered upon the task of determining the future of Germany and Austria. Canada has recently made clear our constructive attitude with regard to these settlements.

In international action for the relief of the destitute, and for the rehabilitation of areas desolated during the war, Canada has been much to the fore. We may indeed be grateful that our country has been able to take the part it has in the relief of human suffering, in the provision of food for the hungry, and in the restoration of devastated countries. Canada is joining with other nations in seeking to solve the perplexing problem of the displaced persons, and in the development of international co-operation in many fields.

It is the policy of the government to have Canada give whole-hearted support to the United Nations. Special attention is being given to the deliberations respecting atomic energy and the regulation and reduction of armaments. My ministers are also following with interest the activities of the United Nations with