

"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 of the financial years ending respectively the 30th June, 1904, and the 30th June, 1905."

To this Bill the Clerk of the Senate, by His Excellency's command, did thereupon say:—

"In His Majesty's name, His Excellency the Governor General thanks His Loyal Subjects, accepts their benevolence, and assents to this Bill."

After which His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to close the Fourth Session of the Ninth Parliament of the Dominion with the following Speech:—

*Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate :*

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons :*

I am glad to relieve you from further attendance in Parliament after a Session that has been protracted to a longer period than I had anticipated when addressing you on the eleventh of last March.

The terms and conditions upon which the National Transcontinental Railway will be built and operated having been finally adjusted and agreed upon, the work of construction will proceed as rapidly as the surveys of the line and the location of the road will permit.

The consensus of opinion expressed on the changes in the tariff affords very gratifying evidence that the alterations have met with general approval.

The arrangements made by my Ministers with the Government of Mexico for lines of steamers between that Republic and Canada on the Atlantic and Pacific will, I hope, add materially to our foreign trade.

The steadily increasing revenue has amply justified the liberal aid granted towards the improvement of our rivers and harbours and the construction of other public works materially benefiting the trade and commerce of our country.

The changes made in the Act respecting the Militia and Defence of Canada, providing for the increased strength and efficiency of the force will, I do not doubt, meet with general approval.

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons :*

I thank you for the liberal provision you have made for the public service.

*Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate :*

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons :*

My official connection with the Dominion of Canada is drawing to a close. Be assured I shall watch its future progress and development with deep and abiding interest and pray that the peace and prosperity with which this favoured land is now being blessed, may under God's providence long continue.

The SPEAKER of the Senate then said :

*Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate :*

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons :*

It is His Excellency the Governor General's will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued until Monday the 19th September next, to be here holden, and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued until the 19th September next.

NAPOLEON ANTOINE BELCOURT,

*Speaker.*