

His Honour the Speaker informed the Senate that he had received a communication from the Governor General's Secretary, in the following words:—

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SECRETARY,

CANADA.

OTTAWA, 31st January, 1921.

SIR,—I have the honour to inform you that His Excellency the Governor General will proceed to the Senate Chamber to open the Session of the Dominion Parliament on Monday, the 14th February, at 3 o'clock.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

O. M. BALFOUR, Captain,
Acting Military Secretary.

The Honourable
The Speaker of the Senate.

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.

After a while, His Excellency the Governor General having come, and being seated on the Throne,

His Honour the Speaker commanded the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod to proceed to the House of Commons and acquaint that House that,—It is His Excellency the Governor General's pleasure that they attend him immediately in the Senate.

Who being come, with their Speaker,

His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to open the Session by a Gracious Speech to both Houses, as follows.—

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate:

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

On your return to your Parliamentary duties, I am glad to be able to congratulate you on the relative prosperity of the country and its comparative freedom from the feeling of unrest which has agitated countries not so fortunately situated. Following the conditions of expansion due to the war, a period of contraction was inevitable. Restriction of credit involving a certain limitation of production and business has been universal, but this Dominion has been less affected than other countries, and a feeling of confidence prevails. A general reduction of the cost of living has set in, and the country, save in certain limited areas, has been blessed with a bountiful harvest.

In spite of this contraction, the annual revenue of the country has been well maintained, and my advisers considered that certain taxes, imposed in part to check extravagant purchasing, had fulfilled their purpose and might be withdrawn. Accordingly, with a few exceptions, these taxes have been remitted, freeing industry and business and thus promoting employment.

Unemployment, the world-wide result of the conditions to which I have referred, though less widespread in Canada than elsewhere, has received the most anxious consideration. Of the charges for the relief of general unemployment, measures have been taken to bear a substantial share, and special measures have been taken to assist disabled and partially disabled ex-service men. These will be submitted to you for approval.