

THE ROYAL ASSENT

[English]

Mr. Speaker: It is my duty to inform the House that the following communication has been received:

Ottawa, October 6, 1978

Sir:

I have the honour to inform you that the Honourable Ronald Martland, Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of Canada, in his capacity as Deputy Governor General, will proceed to the Senate Chamber on Tuesday, the 10th day of October, at 4.30 p.m., for the purpose of giving Royal Assent to certain bills and proroguing the Third Session of the Thirtieth Parliament of Canada.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Edmond Joly de Lotbinière
Administrative Secretary
to the Governor General

A message was delivered by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, as follows:

Mr. Speaker, the Honourable the Deputy Governor General desires the immediate attendance of this honourable House in the chamber of the honourable the Senate.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker with the House went up to the Senate chamber.

In the Senate chamber, the Deputy Governor General was pleased to give, in Her Majesty's name, the Royal Assent to the following bill:

Bill C-66, An Act to provide for an additional advance poll in respect of certain by-elections.—Chapter No. 43.

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT

[English]

After which the Deputy Governor General was pleased to close the third session of the thirtieth Parliament of Canada with the following speech:

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

The Third Session of the Thirtieth Parliament was opened by Her Majesty the Queen, on October 18, 1977. Since then Canadians in many regions have been honoured by visits from several members of the Royal Family and Her Majesty visited Newfoundland and Saskatchewan as well as Edmonton, where she opened the Eleventh Commonwealth Games.

Members of the House of Commons:

This was the first session in which the House of Commons was broadcast on radio and television. In many parts of Canada, people may watch and listen to the deliberations of their elected representatives at the same time that they are occurring. In all parts of Canada, citizens may, on a regular

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basis, watch and listen to recorded segments of the more important proceedings.

As a result of these broadcasts, many more citizens have become aware of the issues that we face and are able to understand better the process of responsible parliamentary government.

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

During this session Canadian unity has been a paramount issue. The government put before you a number of measures and you established a Special Joint Committee to consider these and other proposals on the constitution of Canada.

You have also, in this session, focussed on international affairs. During this session, the House of Commons held a major debate on our foreign relations for the first time in many years. The government has continued its efforts for peace among nations and the maintenance of basic human rights in all parts of the world.

The Canadian economy and, indeed, the world economy have been of great concern during this session. In July, the Prime Minister attended a meeting of the heads of government of the leading industrial nations and, since then, the government has announced a number of major economic initiatives, many of which you will consider in a future session.

Much of your time has been used for discussion of economic matters. You enacted five measures amending the Income Tax Act, the Excise Tax Act and the Customs Tariff. These amendments provided many incentives to economic growth. They also included special measures to assist small businesses.

You amended the Anti-inflation Act in order to facilitate the period of de-control and you extended the Bank Act so that your study of proposed revisions to this legislation may be complete. You enacted a measure to permit the Export Development Corporation to provide greater support to Canadian industry and for the Farm Credit Corporation to do more for Canadian farmers.

Matters relating to energy were of great importance in this session. You passed the Northern Pipeline Act which will govern the construction of one of the greatest projects undertaken on this continent. You also enacted measures to provide for the monitoring of the financial operations of petroleum corporations and to stimulate the development of the tar sands of Alberta.

The institutions and agencies of government were of great interest to you. A measure was enacted to create the Comptroller General of Canada and you passed two acts revising the structures of Air Canada and of Canadian National Railways.

You enacted important amendments to the Canada Labour Code and you established the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety.

Amendments were made to the Pension Act and, twice, improvements were made to the compensation of former prisoners of war.