

CANADA

The Debates of the Senate

OFFICIAL REPORT

THE SENATE

Thursday, January 17, 1935.

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

The Senate met at 2.30 p.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 the Right Honourable Sir Lyman P. Duff, Chief Justice of Canada, in his capacity as Deputy Governor General, would proceed to the Senate Chamber to open the session of the Dominion Parliament this day at three o'clock.

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.

The Right Honourable Sir Lyman P. Duff, Chief Justice of Canada, Deputy Governor General, having come and being seated,

The Hon. the SPEAKER commanded the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod to proceed to the House of Commons and acquaint that House that: "It is the Right Honourable the Deputy Governor General's desire that they attend him immediately in the Senate."

Who being come,

The Hon. the SPEAKER said:

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

I have it in command to let you know that His Excellency the Governor General does not see fit to declare the causes of his summoning the present Parliament of Canada, until a Speaker of the House of Commons shall have been chosen, according to law; but this afternoon, at the hour of thirty minutes past three o'clock, His Excellency will declare the causes of his calling this Parliament.

The Right Honourable the Deputy Governor was pleased to retire, and the House of Commons withdrew.

The sitting was resumed.

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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 proceed to the Senate Chamber to open the session of the Dominion Parliament this day at thirty minutes past three o'clock.

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

At thirty minutes past 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 Sixth Session of the Seventeenth Parliament of Canada with the following speech:

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

I welcome you at a time when our country stands upon the threshold of a new era of prosperity. It will be for you, by your labours, to throw wide the door.

During the past year the grip of hard times has been broken. Conditions show marked improvement. Employment is increasing. Our trade is expanding. The national revenues are higher. These evidences of recovery attest the wisdom and efficacy of the measures you have taken. In these improved conditions, there may now successfully be carried forward those great tasks of reform upon which the well-being of this country depends.

In the anxious years through which you have passed, you have been the witnesses of grave defects and abuses in the capitalist system. Unemployment and want are the proof of these. Great changes are taking place about us. New conditions prevail. These require modifications in the capitalist system to enable that system more effectively to serve the people. Reform measures will therefore be submitted to you as part of a comprehensive plan designed to remedy the social and economic injustices now prevailing, and to ensure to all classes and to all parts of the country a greater degree of equality in the distribution of the benefits of the capitalist system.

Upon this plan you have made a beginning.

Reform measures approved by you at the last session of Parliament are already in successful operation. I observe with especial gratification the manner in which the Natural Products