

The life of the present Parliament will expire in October next, and, under existing legislation, a dissolution and election would be necessary in the early future. My advisers, however, are of opinion that the wishes of the Canadian people and the urgent requirements of the war would be best met by avoiding the distraction and confusion consequent upon a general election at so critical a time.

That purpose can only be effected through the medium of legislation by the Parliament of the United Kingdom. A resolution authorizing and requesting the enactment of such legislation as will further extend the life of this Parliament will be presented to you.

Although in some parts of the Dominion weather conditions affected adversely the excellent prospects of an unusually large harvest, yet taking the country as a whole, the labours of our husbandmen have been abundantly rewarded.

The commercial, industrial and financial stability of the country has been well maintained during the past year. There is every reason to believe that the Dominion will be in a position to meet satisfactorily the readjustment of conditions which must ensue upon the termination of the war.

Important measures designed to aid in meeting these new conditions have been in preparation and some of them will be submitted for your consideration.

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons:*

The accounts for the last, and the estimates for the next fiscal year will be submitted to you without delay, and you will be asked to make the necessary financial provision for the effective conduct of the war.

*Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate:*

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons:*

The lofty patriotism, the fine courage, and the inflexible purpose which have animated all His Majesty's Dominions in upholding our great cause are in nowise abated. In common with the rest of the Empire the people of this Dominion are firmly resolved that in this war, which has entailed so much sacrifice and which we have undertaken for the highest ideals of humanity and civilization, our efforts shall be continued and strengthened until they are crowned with an abiding peace.

I commend to your attentive consideration all measures submitted to you for that great purpose, and I pray that the Divine blessing may attend your deliberations.

On motion of Mr. Hazen, for Sir Robert Borden, seconded by Mr. Doherty,

Ordered, That the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General, to both Houses of Parliament of the Dominion of Canada, be taken into consideration on Monday next.

On motion of Mr. Hazen, for Sir Robert Borden, seconded by Mr. Doherty,

Resolved, That the Order for the consideration of the motion for an Address to His Excellency the Governor General, in reply to his Speech at the opening of the Session, have precedence over all other business, except introduction of Bills, until disposed of.

The Hon. Albert Edward Kemp, Member for the Electoral District of Toronto East, having previously taken the Oath according to Law, and subscribed the Roll containing the same, took his seat in the House.

On motion of Mr. Hazen, for Sir Robert Borden, seconded by Mr. Doherty,

Resolved, That a Special Committee be appointed to prepare and report, with all convenient speed, Lists of Members to compose the Select Standing Committees of