

The Honourable the Speaker of the Commons addressed the Honourable the Deputy of His Excellency the Governor General, as follows:—

“MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR:

The Commons of Canada have voted supplies to enable the Government to defray certain expenses of the public service:

In the name of the Commons, I present to Your Honour the following Bills:—

An Act for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money for the public service for the financial year ending 31st March, 1966,

An Act for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money for the public service for the financial year ending 31st March, 1965.

To which Bills I humbly request Your Honour's Assent'.”

After the Clerk Assistant read the titles of the Bills,—

To these Bills the Royal Assent was pronounced by the Clerk of the Senate in the following words:—

“In Her Majesty's name, the Honourable the Deputy of His Excellency the Governor General thanks her loyal subjects, accepts their benevolence, and assents to these Bills.”

After which the Honourable the Deputy of His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to close the Second Session of the Twenty-Sixth Parliament of Canada, with the following Speech:—

*Honourable Members of the Senate:*

*Members of the House of Commons:*

The second session of the twenty-sixth Parliament opened on February 18, 1964, and you have been in session for a longer time than any other Parliament in our history. You have enacted much important legislation and approved many government actions of great significance for Canadians.

Canada was honoured by the presence of Her Majesty The Queen, and of His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh last October, when we commemorated the conferences held a century before which paved the way to Confederation.

In the past year there was a very substantial increase in the number of people employed in Canada. Unemployment was reduced to the lowest level for many years. Economic growth has accelerated. The 1964 expansion in the Gross National Product was the largest percentage increase to be achieved since 1956. The incomes of Canadians have risen to new high levels. Exports have greatly improved, including particularly exports of manufactured products. Interest rates have been held at relatively low levels and monetary conditions have assisted business expansion. The Government's budget deficit has been sharply reduced.

The first report of the Economic Council of Canada, analysing the great potentialities for the expansion of the Canadian economy between now and 1970, has been laid before you. My Ministers are assessing the policies required to meet the challenge of these potentialities.

My Government has agreed with the governments of all the provinces to recommend a measure whereby all amendments to the constitution of Canada will in future be enacted in Canada.