

## SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

At 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 First Session of the Seventeenth Parliament of the Dominion of Canada with the following Speech:

Honourable Members of the Senate:  
Members of the House of Commons:

It affords me great satisfaction to be associated with you in the important duties upon which you are about to enter at this the First Session of the Seventeenth Parliament of Canada.

The necessity for dealing with exceptional economic conditions with the resultant unemployment has induced me to summon you at an earlier date than would otherwise be necessary. Measures will be submitted for your consideration, including amendments to the Customs Act and the Customs Tariff which it is anticipated will do much to meet the unusual conditions which now prevail.

Honourable Members of the Senate:  
Members of the House of Commons:

In inviting your careful consideration of the important matters which will engage your attention, I pray that Divine Providence may guide and bless your deliberations.

His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to retire, and the House of Commons withdrew.

The sitting of the Senate was resumed.

## RAILWAY BILL

## FIRST READING

Bill—, an Act relating to railways.—Hon. Mr. Willoughby.

## NEW SENATOR INTRODUCED

Hon. Jules Edouard Prevost, of St. Jerome, Quebec, introduced by Hon. Raoul Dandurand and Hon. F. L. Béique.

## COMMITTEE ON ORDERS AND PRIVILEGES

Hon. Mr. WILLOUGHBY moved:

That all the senators present during the session be appointed a Committee to consider the Orders and Customs of the Senate and Privileges of Parliament, and that the said Committee have leave to meet in the Senate Chamber when and as often as they please.

The motion was agreed to.

The Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 3 p.m.

The Hon. the SPEAKER.

## THE SENATE

Tuesday, September 9, 1930.

The Senate met at 3 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

## THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SPEECH

## ADDRESS IN REPLY

The Senate proceeded to the consideration of His Excellency the Governor General's Speech at the opening of the session.

Hon. AIME BENARD (translation): Honourable senators, on rising to move the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, my first duty is to offer to you, Mr. Speaker, in my own name, and, I am sure, in the name of each and every one of my honourable colleagues, sincere congratulations upon your appointment to the position of honour and trust that you occupy. In felicitating the Government upon its very judicious selection, may we take this opportunity of wishing you a pleasant and peaceful regime in presiding over our deliberations.

It is likewise an agreeable duty for me to congratulate the honourable senator from Moose Jaw (Hon. Mr. Willoughby) upon his accession to the position of Government leader in this Chamber, an office for which his eminent qualifications had designated him in advance; also to congratulate the honourable senator from Welland (Hon. Mr. Robertson), who has been called upon to direct such an important Department, upon which the present situation has imposed exceptional responsibilities.

May I add that my good wishes are extended to the leader of the Opposition and his honourable colleagues, who will henceforth be able to enjoy a comparative rest, which they certainly deserve.

If the great honour conferred upon me were confined to myself alone, I should have hesitated to accept it; but in the course of the last forty years this is, I believe, the first time a French Canadian has been called upon to move, in the Senate, in his native tongue, the Address in reply to the gracious speech of His Excellency.

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN: I moved it.

Hon. Mr. BENARD: This is an honour that is reflected upon the important Western group I represent, as well as upon my compatriots in the Province of Quebec, where I