

Bills will also be submitted for the promotion of vocational education; for the creation of a Department of Public Health; for promoting better housing conditions throughout the Dominion by loans made for the purpose to the several Provincial Governments, and for the validation by Parliament of Orders in Council prohibiting the importation and manufacture of intoxicating beverages, and the transportation thereof into any community where their sale is contrary to law. Other necessary legislation dealing with matters, including pensions to soldiers and their dependents, now regulated by Orders in Council, will be laid before you. Further important measures, designed to promote the welfare and prosperity of the people in the new era of reconstruction, social as well as material, upon which the world has entered, will be recommended to your consideration.

After more than four years of war, and notwithstanding the sudden dislocation brought about by the armistice, Canada's industrial, commercial and financial stability has been well maintained. It is the expectation that in addition to business arising from the resumption of public and private undertakings in Canada which were suspended by the war, and needed improvements and betterments throughout the Dominion, Canada will obtain substantial participation in the expansion of export trade following the conclusion of the war, and the liberation of commerce from the restraints which have existed during its continuance. Steps have been taken by my advisers to promote and facilitate such participation.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

The accounts of 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 meeting the remaining expenditures arising out of the war and connected with demobilization; also for the establishment of credits for the financing of purchases of our agricultural, industrial and other products.

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate:

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

It is appropriate that we should acknowledge our thankfulness to Divine Providence for the successful issue of the terrible struggle in which for so long a period our armies have been engaged, and for the restoration of peace to the world. Through the long conflict, with its dire vicissitudes and varying fortunes, our people never allowed themselves to doubt that victory would finally crown our cause, which was that of truth and justice. The deeply loyal and earnest co-operation of the Overseas Dominions and Dependencies with the Mother Country must more firmly cement for all time those ties which bind the Empire in indissoluble union. The spirit born of common sacrifice, suffering and heroic endeavour will also, it is confidently hoped, permanently unite the Allies by the bonds of a great memory and tradition, and effectually promote the formation of a League of Nations which will ensure for all time the peace of the world.

On motion of Sir Thomas White, it was ordered that the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General to both Houses of Parliament be taken into consideration on Tuesday next, and that this order have precedence over all other business except the introduction of Bills until disposed of.

[Mr. Speaker.]

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEES.

Sir THOMAS WHITE: If my hon. friend from Chateauguay-Huntingdon (Mr. Robb) will give me the names of members on that side of the House for a special committee to select under Rule 10 the Select Standing Committees of this House, I will make the motion in that regard on Tuesday next.

Mr. ROBB: Certainly.

OATHS OF OFFICE.

Bill No. 1, respecting the Administration of Oaths of Office, introduced and read the first time.—Sir Thomas White.

REPORTS AND PAPERS.

Joint report of the Librarians of Parliament.—Mr. Speaker.

REPUBLIC OF COSTA RICA—CONGRATULATION ON TRIUMPH OF ALLIED ARMS.

Mr. Speaker submitted a communication conveying to the Clerk of the House of Commons a resolution adopted by the Constitutional Congress of the Republic of Costa Rica, setting forth the joy of the people of Cost Rica upon the termination of the war and the triumph of the Allied arms.

DEATH OF RIGHT HON. SIR WILFRID LAURIER, G.C.M.G.

A STATE FUNERAL ORDERED ON THE MOTION OF SIR THOMAS WHITE, ACTING PRIME MINISTER,

Hon. Sir THOMAS WHITE (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, we meet today under the shadow of a great loss and a deep and widespread personal sorrow. The Right Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, senior member of this House, has passed away, and the entire nation mourns his death. It is my intention later to ask the adjournment of the House until Tuesday next, out of respect to and in honour of his memory. Upon that occasion opportunity will be afforded me and other members of the House who may so wish, to refer in terms more extended than would be fitting at this time to the sad event and to the long and illustrious career of the deceased statesman in the public life of Canada. In the meantime the Government, desirous of paying every appropriate mark of respect, has arranged, with the consent of the family, for a State funeral, which will take place on Saturday morning in accordance with the public announcement which has been made. From eight o'clock this evening the remains will lie in state in this Chamber, when all