

Ministerial Appointments

THE MINISTRY

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MINISTERIAL CHANGES—
APPOINTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY
SECRETARIES

Legislation will be introduced to give Indians the franchise in federal elections. You will be invited to re-establish the joint committee on Indian affairs.

You will be asked to authorize the establishment of a new department to be concerned with affairs relating to the forests of Canada and their most effective utilization and conservation, and to assume responsibility for other related resources.

You will be requested to extend for three years the operation of the Emergency Gold Mining Assistance Act.

An amendment will also be proposed to the National Energy Board Act authorizing the temporary extension of the licences for the export of electricity until the board can conclude its urgent business on export of gas.

A proposal will be placed before you to extend the period during which payments may be made in respect of construction of the trans-Canada highway. You will also be asked to continue the operation of the Export and Import Permits Act for another three years. The repeal of the Newfoundland Fisheries Board Act will be proposed.

Measures will be placed before you to amend the Old Age Security Act and the Veterans' Allowance Act to establish a basis for the payment of pensions and allowances, respectively, to Canadians residing outside Canada.

You will be asked to authorize the establishment of harbour commissions for the harbours of Nanaimo and Oshawa, and to amend the Windsor Harbour Commissioners Act.

You will also be requested to revise the Feeding Stuffs Act and to amend the National Housing Act, the Expropriation Act, the Department of Justice Act and certain other statutes.

Members of the House of Commons:

You will be asked to appropriate the funds required to carry out the services and payments authorized by parliament. To assist you in this purpose, the committee on estimates will again be requested to review the expenditures of several departments.

You will be invited to re-establish the special committee on broadcasting so that it may continue its consideration of broadcasting policy, particularly in the field of regulation and licensing.

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the Commons:

May divine Providence bless you and guide you in your duties.

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister) moved:

That the speech of His Excellency the Governor General to both houses of parliament be taken into consideration at the next sitting of the house.

Motion agreed to.

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, since the last session of parliament there have been a number of changes in the ministry which, in the parliamentary tradition, require to be brought officially to the attention of parliament. It was with regret, felt I think by all members of the house, that toward the end of August the hon. member for Greenwood (Mr. Macdonnell), felt it necessary, because of the state of his health, to retire from the ministry in which he served with such distinction as one of Her Majesty's ministers without portfolio. I am sure members in all parts of the house will be very pleased to see him looking so well. Speaking for my colleagues and myself may I say that our regret at his absence from the council chamber was tempered by the fact that his wise counsel and wide experience will still be available to us, individually, and to this House of Commons of which he has been and continues to be such a distinguished member.

As hon. members are aware, sir, two members of this house have now taken seats on the treasury benches. The hon. member for Rosedale (Mr. Walker) was sworn of Her Majesty's privy council and as Minister of Public Works, and the hon. member for Longueuil (Mr. Sevigny) has joined the cabinet as Associate Minister of National Defence.

I might mention too, sir, the fact that certain other parliamentary appointments were made—which are statutory—and I think it is proper that they be brought to the special notice of the house. I refer to the appointment of parliamentary secretaries, those officially appointed being as follows:

To the Prime Minister.....	the member for Pontiac-Temiscamingue (Mr. Martineau)
To the Secretary of State for External Affairs	the member for Oxford (Mr. Nesbitt)
To the Minister of Finance	the member for Carleton (Mr. R. A. Bell)
To the Minister of Veterans Affairs	the member for Brandon-Souris (Mr. Dinsdale)
To the Minister of Transport	the member for Victoria (Ont.) (Mr. Hodgson)
To the Minister of National Defence	the member for St. Lawrence-St. George (Mr. Chambers)