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PARLIAMENT PROROGUED

The fifth session of the 22nd Parliament of Canada was prorogued on April 12 with the following speech by the Hon. Patrick Kerwin, Deputy Governor General:

"The unstable situation in the Middle East has continued to give concern to Canadians throughout the session which I now bring to a close.

"My Government has sought both inside and outside the United Nations to play a constructive part with a view to reducing the risk of renewed hostilities between Israel and Egypt; to facilitating the early clearance and reopening of the Suez Canal, which is so important to the waterborne commerce of our friends in Europe and Asia; and, through Canada's participation in the United Nations Emergency Force, to establishing conditions conducive to a long-term solution of the political problems of that area.

"In March, discussions were held between my Prime Minister and the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom at Bermuda which dealt with a wide range of matters of international concern and in particular with questions of primary interest to Canada and the United Kingdom. The possibility of a meeting of Commonwealth Prime Ministers early this summer was also discussed.

"The emergence of the former colony of the Gold Coast into full Commonwealth membership as the independent State of Ghana was welcomed by all Canadians as a further confirmation of the value and the adaptability of our free association of sovereign states linked by

common interests and common loyalties. One of my ministers represented Canada at the inaugural ceremonies.

"During the present session useful discussions were also held with the Prime Minister of France, who addressed a special joint meeting of both Houses of Parliament.

"Canada's development is proceeding at such a pace that it continues to place a strain on our human, material and financial resources. In order to hold inflationary tendencies in check, my ministers have urged that governments and private enterprise exercise restraint in their expansion projects.

"A special committee of the Senate has begun a comprehensive investigation of the use of our land resources to contribute more effectively to the improvement of agricultural production and the incomes of those engaged in it.

"The report of the Royal Commission on Economic Prospects has been laid before you. In accordance with its recommendation that special consideration be given to assisting the economies of the Atlantic Provinces, the Government has announced its intention of undertaking a detailed examination of transportation conditions in that area. In the meantime, increases in the payments under the Maritimes Freight Rates Act have been authorized. An offer has been made to construct interconnection facilities between the electricity systems of the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick and to build and operate large

(Over)

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