

A royal commission has been appointed to inquire into the existing situation respecting radio broadcasting in Canada, and to make recommendations to the government as to its future administration, management, control, and financing.

Since the close of the last session, there has been a marked development of the provision for direct personal contact in the discussion of inter-imperial and foreign affairs. The High Commissioner for His Majesty's government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland took up his duties at Ottawa in September. The Japanese legation was established at Ottawa in July under a *Chargé d'Affaires*, and the French legation at Ottawa in November on the arrival of the Minister of France. The Canadian legation in Paris was opened at the end of September, and steps are being taken for the early establishment of the Canadian legation at Tokyo. The more effective consultation provided by the personal contacts thus established will, it is believed, serve materially to advance the common interests concerned, and to promote understanding and good-will in our inter-imperial and international relations.

The Multi-lateral Treaty for the Renunciation of War, which was signed on behalf of Canada on August 27, will be submitted for your approval; also a convention between the United States and Canada providing for the preservation of the scenic values of Niagara Falls.

Among other measures to which your consideration will be invited, will be certain amendments to the Dominion Elections Act, the Companies Act, the Fisheries Act, the Narcotic Drug Act, and the Act Respecting Technical Education.

Members of the House of Commons:

The public accounts for the last fiscal year, and the estimates for the coming year, will be promptly submitted.

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

As you enter upon the duties of another session, I pray that Divine Providence may guide and bless your deliberations.

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING
(Prime Minister) moved:

That the speech of His Excellency the Governor General to both houses of parliament be taken into consideration on Friday next, and that this order have precedence over all other business, except the introduction of bills, until disposed of.

Motion agreed to.

HIS MAJESTY THE KING

MESSAGE OF THANKFULNESS AT PROMISE OF COMPLETE RECOVERY

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING
(Prime Minister): It will be generally conceded that the past twenty years have been the most eventful in the history of the modern world, if not in all history. How much within that period of time the unity and concerted action of the British common-

wealth of nations has been due to the position and personality of the reigning sovereign, we are only just beginning to understand. Let me make mention of but three particulars.

In the Great war His Majesty King George, in virtue of his high office and his own personal example, stood as the symbol of the common effort of all its parts. He was the rallying centre of all the forces that, in His Majesty's name, and in the name of British liberty, fought for a larger freedom. As other thrones were overthrown, his throne became the more firmly established.

In the difficult post-war period of reconstruction, when governments came and went, and many constitutional changes were effected, His Majesty again, in virtue of his understanding, and wisdom, his steadfastness and composure, and his high office as head of the state, stood as the embodiment of an unwavering constitutional authority in Great Britain and beyond the seas.

In war and peace alike, in virtue of his broad democratic sympathies and his never-failing sense of duty, King George has ever worked with his people, as well as for them. Their fortunes have been his, and his theirs. No sovereign has ever been so largely in personal touch with his people and their many interests. There has never been a more democratic sovereign nor a better king.

Is it any wonder, then, that when, two months or more ago, it seemed as if the Angel of Death were about to enter the royal chamber, there came to British peoples, in all parts of the world, a consciousness of what the living presence of King George has meant to the empire over which he has reigned in this momentous epoch, and the sense of what the personal and world loss would be were he to be taken away?

Never have the minds and hearts of the British peoples been drawn more closely together than during the weeks and months in which they have shared the anxieties of the Royal Household, and at no time since His Majesty's accession to the throne have the feelings of love and devotion on the part of His Majesty's subjects found deeper or more universal expression than in the course of the long illness which His Majesty has been called upon to endure. In no part of the British commonwealth has solicitude been greater than in our own Dominion.

It is therefore with profound thankfulness and, indeed, with rejoicing that, as we re-assemble, we are able to hope for the complete recovery of His Majesty. If this happily is the case, I feel that we should pause to pay a tribute to the skill of the