

The co-operation of the provinces has been sought with a view to an amendment of the British North America Act, which would empower the Parliament of Canada to enact forthwith a national scheme of unemployment insurance. My Ministers hope the proposal may meet with early approval, in order that unemployment insurance legislation may be enacted during the present session of Parliament.

Members of the House of Commons will be invited to consider the report of the Special Committee on Elections and Franchise Acts, and you will be asked to enact such legislation as may be necessary to implement such of the Committee's recommendations as meet with their approval.

A measure will be submitted to extend the authority of the Board of Railway Commissioners.

Legislation will be introduced with a view to furthering the principle of parliamentary control of the export of electrical power.

The international situation generally continues to give much ground for anxiety. My Ministers have endeavoured, as opportunity has afforded, to promote international understanding and good-will. They have sought to join the efforts of Canada to those of other countries which are seeking by co-operation and conciliation to effect a settlement of questions and issues which concern the world's peace.

The Administration has followed with deep interest the course of the negotiations being conducted with a view to the conclusion of a trade agreement between the United Kingdom and the United States of America. My Ministers are fully alive to the importance of these negotiations, and to Canada's interest in their outcome.

In August last, the Canadian Government approached the Government of the United States with a view to extending and revising the trade agreement concluded between them in 1935. Exploratory conversations followed which have resulted in efforts to effect a new agreement on a broad and comprehensive basis. It is hoped that negotiations may so progress as to render it possible to submit the new agreement to Parliament, for its consideration, during the present session.

With a number of other countries, adjustments have been made, during the past year, in our commercial relations in order to facilitate a wider exchange of commodities.

The Government is convinced that, in seeking to co-operate with the United Kingdom and other countries in efforts to promote international trade, it is pursuing one of the most effective means of ensuring economic security and progress in Canada, and the betterment of conditions in other parts of the world.

Members of the House of Commons:

The Public Accounts of the last fiscal year and the Estimates for the coming year will be submitted for your consideration.

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.

The Hon. the SPEAKER.

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 A, an Act relating to Railways.—Hon. Mr. Dandurand.

CONSIDERATION OF HIS EXCELLENCY'S SPEECH

On motion of Hon. Mr. Dandurand, it was ordered that the speech of His Excellency the Governor General be taken into consideration on Wednesday next.

HIS MAJESTY'S ACCESSION TO THE THRONE

THE KING'S REPLY TO ADDRESS OF THE SENATE

The Hon. the SPEAKER: Honourable senators, I have the honour to present to the Senate the following message from His Majesty the King:

Buckingham Palace.

Members of the Senate and of the House of Commons of Canada:

I thank you most sincerely for the assurances of loyalty and support contained in the Address which you have presented to me upon the occasion of my Accession to the Throne. It is the dearest wish of The Queen and myself that our reign may be marked, under Divine Providence, by the blessings of peace and by a steady advancement in the welfare and prosperity of all our Peoples: and in our labours to this end we shall be strengthened and encouraged by the prayers and goodwill of the Canadian Parliament and People.

George R.I.

12th April, 1937.

THE CORONATION

THE KING'S REPLY TO ADDRESS OF THE SENATE

The Hon. the SPEAKER: Honourable members of the Senate, I have the honour to present a further message from His Majesty the King, in the following words:

Buckingham Palace.

Members of the Senate and of the House of Commons of Canada:

It is with feelings of deep gratitude that I acknowledge the message of loyalty and congratulation conveyed in your Address of the 10th April which was presented to me by my Prime Minister of Canada on the 11th May.

The assurances of loyalty and devotion addressed to us on that occasion will always be an encouragement to The Queen and myself in the performance of our high task.