

On the invitation of the President of the United States, my Government has joined in the formation of an international commission composed of three representatives from each country to investigate and report upon the conditions and uses of the waters adjacent to the boundary line between the United States and Canada, and to make such recommendations for improvements and regulations as shall best subserve the interest of navigation in said waters.

The rapid growth in the population of the North-west Territories during the past two years justifies the wisdom of conferring on these Territories Provincial autonomy. A Bill for that purpose will be submitted for your consideration.

The surveys necessary for the location of the line of the National Transcontinental Canadian Railway are being vigorously prosecuted, and it is confidently believed that tenders for the construction of several sections may be invited during the coming season.

The display of Canadian products made last year at the St. Louis Exhibition proved such a marked success in attracting emigrants to the western prairies, that it is proposed to accept the invitation of the Government of Belgium to send samples of our products and manufactures, to the exhibition to be shortly held at Liège.

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons:*

The accounts of the last year will be laid before you. It will be satisfactory to you to learn that the expenditure has been less than the revenue, leaving a surplus over all charges.

The estimates for the coming year will be submitted at an early date; they have been prepared with a due regard for economy consistent with the development of the resources of the Dominion.

*Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate:*

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons:*

I invite your best attention to the subjects I have mentioned and invoke the Divine blessing on your deliberations.

His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to retire, and the House of Commons withdrew.

The Honourable Mr. Scott, Secretary of State, presented to the Senate a Bill intitled: "An Act relating to Railways."

The said Bill was read a first time.

The Honourable the Speaker then reported His Excellency's Speech from the Throne, and the same was then read by the Clerk.

On motion of the Honourable Mr. Scott, seconded by the Honourable Mr. Power, it was

Ordered, that the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General be taken into consideration by the Senate on Monday next.

On motion of the Honourable Mr. Scott, seconded by the Honourable Mr. Power, it was

Ordered, That all the Senators present during this Session be appointed a Committee to consider the Orders and Customs of the Senate and Privileges of Parliament, and that the said Committee have leave to meet in the Senate Chamber, when and as often as they please.

With leave of the Senate,

The Honourable Mr. Scott moved, seconded by the Honourable Mr. Power,

That when the Senate adjourns to-day it do stand adjourned until Monday next at Three o'clock in the afternoon.