

# HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, December 7, 1983

## SECOND SESSION—THIRTY-SECOND PARLIAMENT—OPENING

[*Translation*]

The Parliament which had been prorogued on the thirtieth day of November, 1983, met this day at Ottawa for the dispatch of business.

The House met at three o'clock, Madam Speaker in the chair.

**Madam Speaker** read a communication from the Secretary to the Governor General announcing that His Excellency the Governor General would arrive at the Main Entrance of the Parliament Buildings at 2.45 p.m. on this day, Wednesday, the 7th day of December, 1983, and that when it had been signified that all was in readiness, His Excellency would proceed to the Chamber of the Senate to open formally the Second Session of the Thirty-Second Parliament of Canada.

[*English*]

**Mr. Clark (Yellowhead):** Madam Speaker, during this brief interlude I wonder if I might, on behalf of my colleagues in the House of Commons, extend to you a most cordial welcome back to your place in the chair.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Madam Speaker:** Your eyes were filled with so many good wishes that I was very moved. I shall ease myself into the job very gradually. I am feeling better, thank you very much.

A message was delivered by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod as follows:

Madam Speaker, it is the pleasure of His Excellency the Governor General that this honourable House attend him immediately in the chamber of the honourable the Senate.

Accordingly, Madam Speaker with the House went up to the Senate Chamber.

And being returned to the Commons Chamber:

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● (1610)

### OATHS OF OFFICE

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister)** moved for leave to introduce Bill C-1, respecting the administration of oaths of office.

Motion agreed to, Bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

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### SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

[*English*]

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** I have the honour to inform the House that when the House of Commons did attend His Excellency the Governor General this day in the Senate Chamber, His Excellency was pleased to make a speech to both Houses of Parliament. To prevent mistakes I have obtained a copy which is as follows:

*Honourable Members of the Senate,*

*Members of the House of Commons:*

I have the honour to welcome you to the Second Session of the 32nd Parliament of Canada.

Canadians had the great pleasure of welcoming their Royal Highnesses, The Prince and Princess of Wales on an extended tour in June and July of this year. All who saw them were impressed by their friendly, out-going manner and their youthful dignity. As well, since April 1980, we have had the pleasant duty of hosting and meeting with fourteen foreign Heads of State visiting Canada.

We join fellow Canadians in looking forward to the scheduled visit to Canada in 1984 of Her Majesty, the Queen, and His Royal Highness, the Duke of Edinburgh, who will tour the provinces of Ontario, New Brunswick and Manitoba.

You recently completed an historic session of Parliament. The Constitution was brought home and with it came the final attainment of full Canadian sovereignty. The entrenchment of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms will forever help protect the liberty of our citizens. The vital energy and transportation industries are being transformed by the passage of the National Energy Program and the Western Grain Transportation Act. A co-operative national campaign to cut the rate of inflation in half was initiated through the 6 and 5 program. Members and Honourable Senators present all played an active part in these momentous events.

We meet today in a perilous time. East-West tensions are rising. Violence stalks many lands. The resort to force is a daily occurrence. The nuclear threat preys upon the hopes and dreams of every man and woman on the planet. The pursuit of peace must be the paramount goal of mankind. In this quest we must not fail.

For the past several years Canadians, indeed all people, have coped not only with the melancholy of the nuclear threat, but with the reality of the worst recession since the 1930s. This recession, which left more than thirty million people unemployed in the industrialized nations alone, is fortunately ending. Unemployment in all countries will remain too high for too long. But Canada has dramatically reduced the inflation which was the origin of this downturn. Our regained strength, combined with the proper mix of public policies, can now return the country to economic health and move us to new achievements.