

The Honourable the Speaker of the Senate then said:—

MR. SPEAKER,

I am commanded by His Excellency the Administrator to declare to you that he freely confides in the duty and attachment of the House of Commons to His Majesty's Person and Government, and not doubting that their proceedings will be conducted with wisdom, temper and prudence, he grants, and upon all occasions will recognize and allow their constitutional privileges.

I am commanded also to assure you, that the Commons shall have ready access to His Excellency upon all reasonable occasions, and that their proceedings, as well as your words and actions, will constantly receive from him the most favourable construction.

And the House being returned,—

Mr. Speaker reported that the House had been in the Senate Chamber, and that he had, in their names and on their behalf, made the usual claim of privileges, which His Excellency had been pleased to confirm to them.

Mr. Mackenzie King introduced a Bill, No. 1, An Act respecting the administration of Oaths of Office, which was read the first time.

Mr. Speaker reported, That when the House did attend His Excellency the Administrator this day in the Senate Chamber, His Excellency was pleased to make a speech to both House of Parliament, and to prevent mistakes, he had obtained a copy which he read to the House as follows:—

*Honourable Members of the Senate:*

*Members of the House of Commons:*

You have been summoned to the first session of a new Parliament at a time of the greatest conflict in the history of mankind. Upon the outcome of the struggle will depend the maintenance of civilized society and the inheritance of human freedom for our own and future generations.

Since Parliament last met, the nature of the conflict, the character of the enemy, and the perils which menace all free nations, have become only too clear. In that short space of time, the world has seen the peaceful and peace-loving peoples of Denmark, Norway, Holland, Belgium, and Luxembourg made the victims of the treachery and barbarism which have marked the successive outrages of Nazi Germany. It has also witnessed the invasion of Finland, and, despite the epic resistance of its heroic population, the partition of that unoffending country. At any time, the lust of conquest may vastly enlarge the theatre of war. These tragic events have but served to intensify our determination to share in the war effort of the allied powers to the utmost of our strength. In this resolution the Government has been fortified by the direct and unquestioned mandate of the Canadian people.

The organization and prosecution of Canada's war effort have commanded the unremitting attention of My Ministers. The constant consultation and complete co-operation maintained with the governments of the United Kingdom and France have been materially strengthened by the recent visit to those countries of My Minister of National Defence.

You will be fully informed of Canada's action both in the military and economic fields. You will be asked to consider measures deemed essential for the prosecution of the war, and for the social and economic requirements of the country.