

## CANADA

# House of Commons Debates

## OFFICIAL REPORT

**Monday, March 8, 1943**

The house met at three o'clock.

### UNITED NATIONS LEADERS

REPLIES TO MESSAGES SENT TO MR. CHURCHILL  
AND MR. ROOSEVELT ON MARCH 4

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, on Thursday the 4th instant I read to the house copies of telegrams which I had dispatched earlier in the day to the Right Hon. Winston S. Churchill, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, and to Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the United States of America. To these messages I have received the following replies:

From Mr. Churchill, a message dated London, March 6, 1943, as follows:

I am deeply touched by your very generous message and I send to you and to all members of the parliament of Canada my heartfelt thanks. I recall with gratitude the warmth of the reception which you all gave me when I visited Canada in December, 1941. In the darkest days Canada, under your leadership, remained confident and true. Now the days are brighter, and when victory is won, you will be able to look back with just pride upon a record surpassed by none.

I might add that this message was read over the radio last night and has appeared in the press of to-day. I have ascertained that it was given out in London on Saturday night, and that the Associated Press received the message from there. It was not given out from my office. Had I had control of the situation I should have held the message and given it to parliament in the first instance.

From Mr. Roosevelt I received this morning a message dated Washington, March 8, 1943, as follows:

The greetings of old friends have always been especially welcome to me, and so please accept my warmest thanks for your message on my tenth anniversary as president. My good neighbours, the Canadians, are kind indeed to have remembered me on this occasion; and I hope you will convey to them, especially to your colleagues in parliament and the government, my cordial appreciation.

The emphasis in your message on the success of our arms and the growing power of our offensive, strikes a prophetic note. Our people, like yours, and those of all the united nations,

are determined that there shall be no faltering in our march towards victory whatever the obstacles. In this year, above all, we shall support to the limit our troops of land, sea and air in the grim fighting which lies ahead. All Americans are proud to know of the great sacrifices which their Canadian comrades have made so that Canadian men and materials could contribute so vitally to the struggle.

With cordial good wishes to you, as always,

Franklin D. Roosevelt.

### PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

REFERENCE OF AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT TO  
COMMITTEE

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I indicated on Friday that I would refer the report of the auditor general to the public accounts committee to-day. I now move, seconded by the Minister of Mines and Resources (Mr. Crerar):

That the public accounts and the report of the auditor general for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1942, be referred to the standing committee on public accounts.

Mr. T. C. DOUGLAS (Weyburn): Mr. Speaker, I wish to say only a few words with regard to this motion. First I would draw attention to the fact that the motion will deal only with the report of the auditor general as it affects public accounts up to March 31, 1942. Since this motion will be the terms of reference to the committee, it will, as I understand the situation, limit the investigation of that committee to accounts up to that time.

I have a motion on the order paper which, I note, has been relegated to the graveyard of motions by private members and therefore is not likely to be discussed by the house. I would ask the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) that his motion be made to extend the terms of reference so that the committee may be allowed to investigate not only accounts up to the end of the fiscal year, 1942, but also accounts up to the present time, and particularly with reference to the work being done by the office of economy control set up by the government.

The house is already familiar with the statement made or alleged to have been made