

upbuilding of a united and powerful nation. My advisers believe that, notwithstanding the continuance of the war, there should be an appropriate commemoration of an event so notable in the history of Canada.

The life of the present Parliament will expire in October next, and under existing legislation a dissolution and election would be necessary in the early future. My advisers, however, are of opinion that the wishes of the Canadian people and the urgent requirements of the war would be best met by avoiding the distraction and confusion consequent upon a general election at so critical a time.

That purpose can only be effected through the medium of legislation by the Parliament of the United Kingdom. A resolution authorizing and requesting the enactment of such legislation as will further extend the life of this Parliament will be presented to you.

Although in some parts of the Dominion weather conditions affected adversely the excellent prospects of an unusually large harvest, yet taking the country as a whole, the labours of our husbandmen have been abundantly rewarded.

The commercial, industrial and financial stability of the country has been well maintained during the past year. There is every reason to believe that the Dominion will be in a position to meet satisfactorily the readjustment of conditions which must ensue upon the termination of the war.

Important measures designed to aid in meeting these new conditions have been in preparation and some of them will be submitted for your consideration.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

The accounts for the last, and the estimates for the next fiscal year will be submitted to you without delay, and you will be asked to make the necessary financial provision for the effective conduct of the war.

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate:

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

The lofty patriotism, the fine courage, and the inflexible purpose which have animated all His Majesty's Dominions in upholding our great cause are in nowise abated. In common with the rest of the Empire the people of this Dominion are firmly resolved that in this war, which has entailed so much sacrifice and which we have undertaken for the highest ideals of humanity and civilization, our efforts shall be continued and strengthened until they are crowned with an abiding peace.

I commend to your attentive consideration all measures submitted to you for that great purpose, and I pray that the Divine blessing may attend your deliberations.

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

The sitting of the Senate was resumed.

Prayers.

BILL PRO FORMA.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED presented a Bill intituled, An Act relating to Railways.

The Bill was read the first time.

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CONSIDERATION OF HIS EXCELLENCY'S SPEECH.

On motion of Hon. Sir James Lougheed, it was ordered that the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General be taken into consideration on Tuesday next.

COMMITTEE ON ORDERS AND PRIVILEGES.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED moved:

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.

The motion was agreed to.

COMMITTEE OF SELECTION.

On motion of Hon. Sir James Lougheed, the following Senators were appointed a Committee of Selection to nominate Senators to serve on the several Standing Committees during the present Session. Hon. Sir Mackenzie Bowell, Hon. Messrs. Béique, Casgrain, Daniel, Power, Ross (Moosejaw), Taylor, Watson, and the mover.

IMPERIAL WAR CONFERENCE.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED laid on the Table certain papers relating to the Imperial War Conference of 1917.

The Senate adjourned until Tuesday, the 23rd instant, at 3 o'clock p.m.

THE SENATE.

Tuesday, January 23, 1917.

The Senate met at three o'clock, the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

NEW SENATORS INTRODUCED.

The following newly-appointed senators were severally introduced and took their seats:

Hon. W. H. Richardson, of Kingston, Ontario, introduced by Hon. Sir James Lougheed and Hon. Sir Mackenzie Bowell.

Hon. Gideon D. Robertson, of Welland, Ontario, introduced by Hon. Sir James Lougheed and Hon. Sir Mackenzie Bowell.