

“MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY :

“The Commons of Canada have voted the Supplies required to enable the Government to defray the expenses of the Public Service.

“In the name of the Commons, I present to Your Excellency the Bill intituled:—

An Act for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money for the public service of the financial years ending respectively the 31st March, 1909, and the 31st March, 1910,

to which Bill I humbly request Your Excellency's assent.”

Then after the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery had read the Title of the Bill; To this Bill the Royal Assent was pronounced by the Clerk of the Senate, in the following words:—

“In His Majesty's name, His Excellency the Governor General thanks His Loyal Subjects, accepts their benevolence, and assents to this Bill.”

After which His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to close the First Session of the Eleventh Parliament of the Dominion with the following Speech:—

*Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate:*

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons:*

In relieving you from further attendance on the session, I thank you for the assiduity and diligence which you have given to the discharge of the duties entrusted to your care, and it must be a source of satisfaction to yourselves that you have been able to perform your labours in a comparatively brief space of time.

I am pleased to notice that your attention has been engaged in some measures of great importance.

In the first rank of such measures is to be noted the amendment to the Railway Act, under which by the joint action of the national government, provincial and municipal authorities, together with the railway companies, level railway crossings are to be gradually removed, and a constant menace to life and property thereby effectually done away with.

The loan of ten million dollars to the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company, will no doubt ensure the completion, during the coming season, of the prairie section of the National Transcontinental Railway, and will secure to the fast developing western provinces for this year's crop, a new and competitive outlet towards the sea.

The Act to place the Department of Labour, which has been in existence for some years, under the direct responsibility of a Minister of the Crown, exclusively entrusted with its management, is in accordance with the oft-expressed wishes of labour organizations, and is a further step in a field of legislation wherein Canada has already taken a not unimportant place.

The Act charging the Secretary of State with special responsibility in regard to the External Affairs of Canada will facilitate the transaction of business in connection with that most important branch of the public service.

The resolution adopted by the House of Commons for the organization of a Canadian Naval service, in co-operation with and in close relation to the Imperial Navy, is a proper acknowledgment of the duties now appertaining to Canada as a nation, and as a member of the British Empire.

The financial conditions throughout the world seem to be more hopeful than they were four months ago when I opened this session, and whilst in Canada we have undoubtedly suffered less than other countries during this period of universal depression, it will still be the part of prudence to exercise care and economy in all branches of the Service.

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons:*

I thank you for the provisions which you have made for the public service.