

House of Commons Debates

THIRD SESSION—ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THURSDAY, November 17, 1910.

The parliament which had been prorogued from time to time to the 17th day of November, 1910, met this day for the despatch of business.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

Mr. SPEAKER. I have the honour to inform the House that I have received the following communication from the Secretary of His Excellency the Governor General:

Office of the Governor General's Secretary,
Canada.

Ottawa, 15th November, 1910.

SIR,—I have the honour to inform you that His Excellency the Governor General will proceed to the Senate Chamber to open the Session of the Dominion Parliament on Thursday, the Seventeenth of November, at Three o'clock p.m.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

D. O. MALCOLM,

Governor General's Secretary.

The Honourable

The Speaker of the House of Commons.

A message was delivered by Capt. Ernest J. Chambers, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, as follows:

Mr. Speaker, His Excellency the Governor General desires the immediate attendance of your honourable House in the Chamber of the honourable the Senate.

Accordingly the House went up to the Senate Chamber.

And the House being returned.

VACANCY.

Mr. SPEAKER. I have the honour to inform the House that, during the recess I received a notification of a vacancy having occurred in the representation in the House of Commons for the Electoral District of Drummond and Arthabaska, consequent upon Louis Lavergne, Esq., the sitting member therefor, having been moved to the Senate. I accordingly issued my warrant to the Clerk of the Crown in Chan-

cery to make out a new writ of Election for the said Electoral District.

FIRST READING.

Bill (No. 1) respecting the administration of oaths of office.—Rt. Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier (Prime Minister).

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

Mr. SPEAKER. I have the honour to inform the House that when the House 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, and to prevent mistakes I have obtained a copy, which is as follows:

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate:

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

When I prorogued parliament in the month of May last, I was about completing the term usually allotted to the office of Governor General, but it has pleased His Majesty King George V. to continue me as His representative in Canada, and therefore it is my great pleasure to greet you at the opening of this new session.

I meet you under the shadow of the calamity which has befallen this country and the whole British Empire, in the demise of our beloved sovereign, King Edward VII. His death is mourned, not only by his subjects the world over, but also by all civilized nations who had learned to appreciate the many gifts and qualities which had earned for him the name of Peacemaker, by which he will be known in history.

It is with great pleasure that I congratulate you on the ever-growing prosperity of this favoured land. Trade and commerce are advancing in all directions with rapid strides. The total volume of imports and exports far exceeds all previous records, and the growth of our industries and internal trade keeps pace with the development of our external commerce.

Whilst in certain of the western provinces crops did not realize the sanguine expectations which had been formed in the early