

The procedure it may be advisable to follow with respect to railway freight rates will in some measure necessarily depend upon the decision of the Supreme Court in the appeal respecting the Crow's Nest Pass Agreement. With regard to ocean freight rates, action is being taken to overcome the restraints on export trade due to the exactions of the powerful steamship combine known as the North Atlantic Steamship Conference. Your approval will be asked of a measure aimed at affording the Government of Canada a control of ocean rates.

It is the intention of the Government so to equip our important ports on the St. Lawrence route, and on both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, as to enable them to meet all requirements of modern navigation.

To secure greater co-operation in the administration of the laws of the two countries respecting smuggling and the prosecution and extradition of persons violating the anti-narcotic laws of either country, treaties between the Dominion of Canada and the United States have been negotiated and signed. They will be submitted for your approval prior to their ratification.

You will be asked to sanction the calling of a conference between the federal and provincial governments to consider the advisability of amending the British North America Act with respect to the constitution and powers of the Senate, and in other important particulars.

Your attention will also be invited, during the course of the session, to certain trade agreements, to legislation respecting the handling and marketing of Canadian grain and to other important matters.

Members of the House of Commons:

The public accounts for the last fiscal year, and the estimates for the coming year, will be promptly submitted. In the preparation of the estimates, regard has been had to the need for continued economy with respect to the public services and public works.

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

May Divine Providence guide and bless your deliberations.

On motion of Mr. Mackenzie King (York), it was ordered, That the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General to both Houses of Parliament, be taken into consideration on Monday next, and that this order have precedence over all other business except the introduction of bills, until disposed of.

On motion of Mr. Mackenzie King (York), a Special Committee was appointed to prepare and report, with all convenient speed, Lists of Members to compose the Select Standing Committees of this House under Rule 10, said Committee to be composed of Messrs.: Beland, Copp, Low, Kyte, Papineau, Tolmie, Boys, Johnston, and Halbert, and that portion of Rule 10 limiting the number of members of the said Committee was suspended in relation thereto.

Mr. Mackenzie King (York) delivered a message from His Excellency the Governor General, which was read by Mr. Speaker, as follows:—

BYNG OF VIMY.

The Governor General transmits to the House of Commons a certified copy of an approved Minute of Council appointing the Honourable H. S. Béland, Minister of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment; the Honourable Thomas A. Low, Minister of Trade and Commerce; the Honourable J. H. King, Minister of Public Works, and the Honourable John E. Sinclair, Minister without Port-