

In a spirit of splendid loyalty and unfaltering devotion, India and the Overseas Dominions have vied with each other in co-operating with the Mother Country to achieve this great purpose.

The call to service has evoked a widespread and notable response in Canada. Already 120,000 men have crossed the seas, an equal number is now being actively trained and equipped for service abroad, and a call extending the authorized enlistment to half a million men has been received with warm enthusiasm.

At the front our gallant soldiers have met the enemy in repeated contests, and by their pre-eminent courage and heroic endurance have shed lustre upon their country and upheld its highest traditions.

Equally praiseworthy and impressive has been the self-sacrificing and loyal spirit shown by all the Canadian people who have freely dedicated their manhood and substance to the common defence of the Empire.

The life of the present Parliament expires in the autumn of this year, and, under existing legislation a dissolution and election would be necessary in the early future. My advisers, however, are of the opinion that the wishes of the Canadian people and the present 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 extend the life of this Parliament for the period of one year will be presented to you.

Measures will be submitted for your consideration to further the effective co-operation of Canada in the defence of the Empire and in the maintenance of this war waged for liberty and lasting peace.

It is a matter for profound thankfulness that Providence has blessed the labours of our husbandmen during the past year with the most bountiful harvest in the history of Canada.

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 high courage, the splendid heroism, and the unalterable determination which have

marked the united efforts of all portions of His Majesty's Dominions, during a year of unprecedented strain and effort, justify our supreme confidence in the triumph of our cause and in lasting affirmation of the principles of liberty and justice throughout the world. I commend to your earnest consideration the measures which will be submitted to you for aiding in the great purpose, and I pray that the Divine blessing may rest upon your counsels.

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

The Senate was resumed.

BILL INTRODUCED.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED presented to the Senate Bill (), An Act relating to Railways.

The Bill was read the first time.

The Senate adjourned until Tuesday next at 3 p.m.

THE SENATE.

Tuesday, January 18, 1916.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

THE ADDRESS.

The order of the day being called:

Consideration of His Royal Highness the Governor General's speech on the opening of the sixth session of the twelfth Parliament.

Hon. Mr. SPROULE—I appreciate, and gratefully acknowledge the honour conferred on the constituency I so long represented in the other Chamber, my province, and myself, by the invitation to move the Address in reply to the speech from the Throne. As one of the youngest members of this Chamber, I am sure I shall be accorded the indulgence of honourable gentlemen, if I fail to come up to their expectations in the performance of that duty. In glancing over the speech which His Royal Highness graciously addressed to the members of both Houses at the opening, it is at once noticeable that but two important subjects are involved in it, first, the question of the extension of the life of the