

CANADA

The Debates of the Senate

OFFICIAL REPORT

THE SENATE

Speaker: Hon. GEORGE PARENT

Thursday, November 7, 1940.

The Parliament of Canada having been summoned by Proclamation of the Governor General to meet this day for the dispatch of business:

The Senate met at 2.30 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers.

OPENING OF THE SESSION

The Hon. the SPEAKER informed the Senate that he had received a communication from the Governor General's Secretary informing him that His Excellency the Governor General would proceed to the Senate Chamber to open the session of the Dominion Parliament this day at three o'clock.

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

At three o'clock His Excellency the Governor General proceeded to the Senate Chamber and took his seat upon the Throne. His Excellency was pleased to command the attendance of the House of Commons, and that House being come, with their Speaker, His Excellency was pleased to open the Second Session of the Nineteenth Parliament of Canada with the following speech:

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

Since last you met for deliberation, all countries have come to have a clearer conception of the magnitude of the present conflict and its menace to civilization. Additional nations have been threatened with war, or have become involved in war. But little of freedom is now left in Europe. Force and fear have been supplemented by subtle intrigue. International tension has been heightened by the formation of an alliance between the Axis powers and Japan.

While these events have added enormously to the uncertainties of the world situation, other events of even greater significance have served to confirm our confidence in the ultimate outcome of the struggle. First and foremost has been the magnificent resistance of the

United Kingdom. For four months, Britain has constituted the front line of battle against the forces of aggression. The spectacular advance of the enemy has been halted by the indomitable spirit of her people.

The destruction of freedom throughout Europe has awakened, in the western hemisphere, a fuller consciousness of the Nazi menace. In the face of the common peril there have arisen a closer association and an increasing measure of co-operation between the United States of America and the nations of the British Commonwealth.

You have been summoned at this time that opportunity may be afforded for the fullest consideration and discussion of Canada's war effort and of national problems which war has served to intensify or create. You will be fully advised of international developments; of Canada's co-operation with the United Kingdom, and of relations with the United States. The measures which will be submitted to you are such as seem necessary to my advisers for the welfare of the country, and for the prosecution of the war to the utmost of our strength.

Members of the House of Commons:

You will be asked to make financial provision for expenditure caused by the state of war which now exists. The estimates for the current fiscal year will be duly submitted to you for your consideration and approval.

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

In the discharge of your very responsible duties may Divine Providence guide and bless your deliberations.

The House of Commons withdrew.

His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to retire.

The sitting of the Senate was resumed.

RAILWAY BILL

FIRST READING

Bill A, an Act relating to Railways.—Hon. Mr. Dandurand.

CONSIDERATION OF HIS EXCELLENCY'S SPEECH

On motion of Hon. Mr. Dandurand, it was ordered that the speech of His Excellency the Governor General be taken into consideration on Tuesday next.