

This has been the exceptional achievement of little more than a century of history. The people of Canada, therefore, have cause for celebration. My government has invited the participation of all the provinces and territories in planning Canada's 125th birthday in 1992.

The same year will mark the 350th anniversary of the founding of Montreal.

Canadians are justifiably proud of their cultural industries—distinctive, creative and increasingly recognized worldwide. My government will continue its commitment to the growth and development of Canada's cultural life, to this nation's linguistic duality, and to its rich and diverse multicultural heritage. It will improve the distribution of Canada's cultural products in broadcasting, film and video. It will propose legislation to further improve the laws on copyright.

My government will introduce a revitalized citizenship act. Legislation will be introduced to establish a Canadian race relations foundation. By this initiative, my government intends to emphasize the need for all Canadians to support and encourage racial harmony.

The state and condition of Canada's political institutions, which represent the bulwark of our democracy, require constant interest and concern. My government will build upon the recent achievements in the field of parliamentary reform. You will be asked to legislate new conflict-of-interest standards for parliamentarians.

My government will appoint a commission of inquiry to make recommendations for needed changes and reforms to the electoral laws.

### Conclusion

During the remaining years leading to the 21st century, challenge and opportunity alike will become a familiar part of the daily life of the people of Canada. The challenge will be to the nation's strength of purpose, to its will to persist and to prosper, to its resolve to be worthy of its special heritage and history, and to its determination to promote economic development in a manner consistent with a safe and wholesome environment.

As a strong, skilled and confident people, Canadians will find a greater place in world commerce and trade, in technological innovation, and in scientific development and discovery. The first task for my ministers will be to help prepare the way for this viable and dynamic Canada.

My government's priorities are firm, and its determination to pursue the plan started four years ago is unflinching. My government's task is to be ready for the challenges ahead as Canadians move toward a new century.

*Ladies and Gentlemen, Honourable Members of the Senate,  
Ladies and Gentlemen, Members of the House of Commons:*

May Divine Providence guide your deliberations.

The House of Commons withdrew.

Her Excellency the Governor General was pleased to retire.

The sitting of the Senate was resumed.

### RAILWAYS BILL

#### FIRST READING

**Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government)** presented Bill S-1, relating to railways.

Bill read first time.

### SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

#### CONSIDERATION AT NEXT SITTING

**The Hon. the Speaker:** Honourable senators, I have the honour to inform you that Her Excellency the Governor General has caused to be placed in my hands a copy of her Speech delivered this day from the Throne to the two Houses of Parliament. It is as follows—

**Hon. Senators:** Dispense.

**The Hon. the Speaker:** Honourable senators, when shall this Speech be taken into consideration?

**Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government)** moved:

That the Speech of Her Excellency the Governor General, delivered this day from the Throne to the two Houses of Parliament, be taken into consideration at the next sitting of the Senate.

Motion agreed to.

### COMMITTEE ON ORDERS AND CUSTOMS

#### APPOINTMENT

**Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government)** moved:

That all the Senators present during this Session be appointed a Committee to consider the Orders and Customs of the Senate and Privileges of Parliament, and that the said Committee have leave to meet in the Senate Chamber when and as often as they please.

Motion agreed to.

### COMMITTEE OF SELECTION

#### APPOINTMENT

**Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government)** moved:

That pursuant to Rule 66(1), the Honourable Senators Corbin, Denis, Doody, Frith, Lewis, Macdonald (*Cape*