

and my government will immediately appoint a commission of experienced men to report on the subject.

A treaty has been entered into between His Majesty and the government of the United States, under which the proper delimitation of the boundaries between Canada and Alaska is to be judicially determined by a tribunal of six impartial jurists of repute.

As a result of the recent decennial census, the representation of the different provinces must be re-adjusted, as required by the British North America Act, and a Bill will be introduced for that purpose.

Bills with respect to the creation of a Railway Commission, the amendment of the Patent Laws, the Militia Act, Chinese immigration, the reorganization of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, the settlement of Railway labour disputes, and various other subjects will be submitted to you.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons :

The public accounts will be laid before you and also the estimates for the coming year, which have been prepared with due regard to economy and the rapid growth of the Dominion.

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate :

Gentlemen of the House of Commons :

I pray that in the consideration of these matters and in the performance of all the labours which will devolve on you, your deliberations, under Divine guidance, will tend still to increase the prosperity and happiness of our people.

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

BILL INTRODUCED.

An Act relating to Railways.—(Hon. Mr. Scott).

The Senate adjourned.

THE SENATE.

Ottawa, Monday, March 16, 1903.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

NEW SENATORS.

The following newly-appointed Senators were introduced :—

HON. J. K. KERR, of the city of Toronto.

HON. T. COFFEY, of the city of London.

HON. J. TESSIER, of the city of Quebec.

THE ADDRESS.

MOTION.

The Order of the Day being called :

Consideration of His Excellency the Governor General's speech of the opening of the 3rd session of the 9th parliament.

Hon. Mr. FROST said :—The duty assigned me to-day is one that ought not to cause any dismay in the heart of one who speaks to you for the first time. Still I confess to a certain degree of nervousness inseparable from my first effort before so important and distinguished a body as the Senate of Canada.

His Excellency has been graciously pleased to congratulate parliament on the continued prosperity that prevails throughout the Dominion. Where is there anywhere in the whole world any country that can show so favourable a record to-day as the Dominion of Canada? We read of unfavourable conditions in the various countries of the world. If we look to Germany, England and France we find depression existing. In many of the countries of the continent of Europe and throughout Asia we find excessive taxation, we find famine, and we find the prospect of war. If we go across the line to the neighbouring republic, we also see there many things which tend to disturb the peace and happiness of the people. Gigantic trusts and monopolies have raised their heads. Immense fortunes have been made by men who in the short time that they have acquired them have been aided by perhaps laws which have been wrongfully placed upon the statute-book. We find also this great wealth and gaunt poverty side by side. We find that many men are abandoning their farms, moving into the city, and are leaving the independent life which they had for the more dependent life of the cities. We also find there a great contempt for the local administration of justice. We find lynch law prevails; we find a colour question and we also find many evils, among them divorce laws that are very loose and in many ways we can apply the lines of Goldsmith.

Ill fares the land to hast'ning ills a prey
Where wealth accumulates and men decay.