

Speech from the Throne

The concern of our people over the rising cost of living resulting from international and domestic inflationary pressures is fully shared by the government. Every measure will be taken which my ministers believe will be effective in counteracting inflation without impairing our free institutions. The anti-inflationary measures already in force have checked the upward trend of prices of goods and services affected by their operation.

The government has received an interim report from the committee studying the combines legislation recommending that suppliers of goods should be prohibited from requiring or inducing distributors to resell such goods at fixed or minimum resale prices. You will be asked to consider legislation arising out of the committee's interim report.

My Prime Minister has conferred recently with the President of the United States on the vital importance to the security and economies of both countries of proceeding as rapidly as possible with both the seaway and the power phases of the St. Lawrence project.

The president stated he would support Canadian action to construct the seaway as second best if an early commencement of the joint development does not prove possible. Terms have been arranged with the government of Ontario for the participation of the Ontario Hydro Electric Power Commission with the appropriate federal or state authority in the United States for the power development in the international section of the St. Lawrence, and with respect to the division of costs between power and navigation. You will be asked to enact legislation to provide for an appropriate agency of the federal government to deal with the construction of the St. Lawrence seaway. The proposed agency would be empowered to proceed either with the Canadian share of an international undertaking or a solely Canadian development, as soon as satisfactory international arrangements can be made for the power phases of the project in both countries.

The commission to consider whether the economic and social returns to the Canadian people on the investment in the proposed South Saskatchewan river project would be commensurate with the cost has been appointed and is pursuing its studies.

The government has decided to proceed with the construction of a causeway to bridge the strait of Canso for rail and road traffic as recommended by the board of engineers, and the government of Nova Scotia has agreed to contribute a portion of the cost.

Pursuant to the recommendations of the royal commission on transportation, amendments will be introduced to the Railway Act, the Canadian National-Canadian Pacific Act and the Maritime Freight Rates Act. The amendment to the Railway Act will include the provision recommended by the commission for maintenance by the nation of the link in northern Ontario between eastern and western Canada.

My ministers will submit a bill embodying recommendations for legislation on radio broadcasting and television of the royal commission on national development in the arts, letters and sciences, including provision for the financing of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

You will be asked to consider certain proposed amendments to the Dominion Elections Act.

Bills will be introduced regarding the agricultural products board, Canada land surveys, and the United Kingdom financial agreement.

Amendments will be submitted to the legislation respecting the National Gallery of Canada, the Government Annuities Act, the Public Works Act, the Civil Service Act and the Public Printing and Stationery Act.

[Mr. Speaker.]

Members of the House of Commons:

The government will recommend the immediate establishment of the committee on public accounts and will ask you to refer for its consideration the bill respecting financial administration which will be introduced without delay.

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

May Divine Providence bless your deliberations.

MOTION FOR PRECEDENCE OF DEBATE ON ADDRESS

Right Hon. L. S. St. Laurent (Prime Minister) moved:

That the speech of His Excellency the Governor General to both houses of parliament be taken into consideration on Friday next, and that this order have precedence over all other business except introduction of bills and government notices of motions until otherwise ordered.

Motion agreed to.

VACANCY

Mr. Speaker: I have the honour to inform the house that I have received the resignation of Walter Cunningham Thomson, Esquire, as member for the electoral district of Ontario. I have accordingly issued my warrant to the chief electoral officer to make out a new writ of election for the said electoral district.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12

Right Hon. L. S. St. Laurent (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the first paragraph of the speech which Your Honour has just brought back to the house refers to the gratifying fact that we are at this time being honoured by the visit of Their Royal Highnesses The Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh. It was my privilege to attend yesterday with His Excellency the Governor General to extend to them, on their arrival at the airport at Dorval, the warmest welcome of the people of Canada. From there they proceeded to Quebec where they took up this morning the schedule that had been arranged previously when they had expected to come by boat and to land at Quebec. Hon. members know that they will arrive in Ottawa at ten o'clock tomorrow morning and that a full schedule of engagements has been arranged for them, including among others the visit to the houses of parliament at four o'clock tomorrow afternoon; then on Thursday there is, among other engagements, a reception by the government at the Chateau Laurier.

I am sure it will be the desire of all hon. members to take part in the events which have been arranged both to mark the satisfaction of all Canadians at the rapid progress