

commission to open this Session of Parliament, or does he act *ex officio* as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: I am informed that the Supreme Court Act provides that the Chief Justice of Canada shall act as Deputy Governor General, in which capacity he comes to Parliament to perform the functions of that office; so that a commission is entirely unnecessary.

Hon. Mr. POWER: My impression is that Chief Justice Fitzpatrick holds a special commission which was presented to the Clerk of this House some two or three years ago.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY: I presume that was a special commission for the special purpose of opening Parliament at that time.

Hon. Mr. POWER: No.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY: I know that last year another commission was issued. However, I suppose the question may be postponed to be looked into.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: My impression is that the commission to the Deputy Governor General was issued by His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, and that it has lapsed with the expiration of His Royal Highness's term as Governor General.

The motion was agreed to, and the Senate adjourned until 2.30 o'clock p.m. tomorrow.

THE SENATE.

Friday, January 19, 1917.

The Senate met at 2.30 o'clock p.m., the Speaker in the Chair, and immediately thereafter adjourned during pleasure.

THE SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

At three o'clock His Excellency the Governor General proceeded in state to the Senate Chamber and took his seat upon the Throne. The members of the Senate being assembled, His Excellency was pleased to command the attendance of the House of Commons, and that House being come, His Excellency was pleased to open the Seventh Session of the Twelfth Par-

Hon. Mr. LANDRY.

liament of the Dominion of Canada with the following Speech:

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate:

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

I desire on this occasion to express my respectful appreciation of the honour conferred on me by the King in appointing me to the distinguished office of Governor General.

I esteem it a high privilege to become closely identified with Canada at the time when she is taking so splendid a part in the world-wide struggle, and I look forward to her ability and capacity to exercise an ever-increasing influence in bringing the war to a victorious conclusion.

When peace is again happily restored I am confident that the vast resources of the Dominion will continue to be developed for the lasting benefit of the Empire and in the best interests of liberty and humanity.

Although nearly two and a half years have elapsed since the outbreak of war yet that period has not been more than sufficient for the enormous preparation necessary to enable our Empire to throw its full strength into the struggle.

The events that have transpired since pro rogation give convincing testimony of the efficiency of the measures thus taken and bear splendid tribute to the valour and heroism of His Majesty's forces in every theatre of war.

With preparation already so ample and still increasing we may confidently anticipate that the not distant future will bring such success to the allied arms as will assure the full maintenance of the purposes and ideals for which we have engaged in this war.

The Canadian forces dispatched overseas during 1916 numbered more than 165,000 and the aggregate of enlistments in Canada since the outbreak of war is nearly 400,000. In attack as well as in defence the valour, endurance and resourcefulness of the Canadian troops have been conspicuous on every occasion when they have met the enemy, and they have splendidly upheld the highest traditions of their country.

Equally notable and impressive has been the fine spirit of loyalty displayed by the people of this Dominion who have freely dedicated their energies and their material resources to the common defence of our Empire.

Steps have been taken by my advisers for better organization of National Service, and attention has been given to the more thorough utilization of our natural resources. Measures have also been taken in co-operation with the Government of the United Kingdom to facilitate the increased production of munitions in Canada.

The Government of the United Kingdom have invited the First Ministers of the Dominions to attend a series of special and continuous meetings of the War Cabinet (of which for this purpose they will be members) to consider urgent questions affecting the prosecution of the war, the possible conditions on which the Allied Nations could assent to its termination, and the problems which would then immediately arise. This invitation has been accepted on behalf of Canada.

The Fiftieth Anniversary of the foundation of this Dominion draws near and brings with it the inspiring memory of all that has been accomplished during the half century in the