

Governor General's Speech

An Act incorporating The United Church of Canada.
 An Act to amend the Companies Act.
 An Act to provide for the Superannuation of Civil Servants.
 An Act to amend the Bank Act.
 An Act to amend the Immigration Act.
 An Act to change the name of La Banque d'Hoche-
 laga to "Banque Canadienne Nationale."
 An Act to amend The Feeding Stuffs Act.
 An Act to amend The Inland Water Freight Rates
 Act, 1923.
 An Act to amend The Fisheries Act, 1914.
 An Act to amend the Canada Shipping Act, to give
 effect to certain Draft Conventions adopted by the
 International Labour Conference of the League of
 Nations.
 An Act to amend the Customs Act.
 An Act to amend the Indian Act.
 An Act respecting the Toronto Terminals Railway
 Company.
 An Act respecting the Revised Statutes of Canada.
 An Act to amend the Winding-up Act.
 An Act to amend The Department of Customs
 and Excise Act.
 The Research Council Act.
 An Act to amend the Fisheries Act, 1914.
 An Act to provide for further advances to the
 Vancouver Harbour Commissioners.
 An Act to amend the Montreal Harbour Com-
 missioners Act, 1894.
 An Act to amend the Canada Shipping Act.
 An Act to amend the Expropriation Act.
 An Act to amend the Royal Canadian Mounted
 Police Act.
 An Act to amend The Department of Soldiers'
 Civil Re-establishment Act.
 An Act respecting Quartz Mining in the Yukon
 Territory.
 An Act to amend The Bank Act by changing the
 name of La Banque d'Hoche-laga to "Banque
 Canadienne Nationale."
 An Act respecting the Construction of a Canadian
 National Railway Line from the end of the China
 Clay Branch to St. Rémi d'Amherst, in the Pro-
 vince of Quebec.
 An Act to readjust the Representation in the House
 of Commons.
 An Act to amend The Criminal Code (Evidence as
 to Games of Chance).
 An Act for the relief of Charles Dawson Carlyle.
 An Act for the relief of Elgin Caughey.
 An Act for the relief of Florence Ethel Armstrong.
 An Act to amend the Militia Act.
 An Act to amend the Pension Act.

To these bills the royal assent was pronounced by the Clerk of the Senate in the following words:

In His Majesty's name His Excellency the Governor General doth Assent to these bills.

Then the Honourable the Speaker of the House of Commons addressed the Governor General as follows:

May it please Your Excellency:

The Commons of Canada have voted supplies required to enable the government to defray certain expenses of the public service.

In the name of the Commons I present Your Excellency the following bill:

An Act for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money for the public service of the financial year ending the 31st March, 1924 and 31st March, 1925.

To which bill I humbly request Your Excellency's assent.

To this bill the Clerk of the Senate, by command of His Excellency the Governor General did thereupon say:

In His Majesty's name. His Excellency the Governor General thanks his loyal subjects, accepts their benevolence, and assents to these bills.

GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SPEECH

After which His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to close the third session of the fourteenth parliament of the Dominion of Canada with the following speech:

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

I am glad to be able to relieve you of the parliamentary duties to which, for some months past, you have given such constant and close attention. In bringing to a conclusion the proceedings of the present session, may I express my pleasure at the degree to which you have realized the hopes set forth in my address at the reassembling of parliament in February last.

It is deeply gratifying to be able to record that, for the first time since the outbreak of war, the national Budget has been balanced, and the relation between revenue and expenditure such as to justify an immediate reduction of taxation.

The lowering of the sales tax and the increase in the number of commodities exempted therefrom should serve to reduce in appreciable measure the cost of living and prove beneficial to trade.

The substantial lessening of the burdens of customs taxation effected by a downward revision of the tariff upon the instruments of production in the industries based on the natural resources of the Dominion cannot fail to aid materially in agricultural and industrial development, and, through cheapened production, also to effect a diminution in the cost of living.

The task of readjusting the representation of the people in the House of Commons, under the provisions of the British North America Act, has been accomplished with comparatively little disturbance of existing electoral divisions in most of the provinces. The readjustment will considerably increase the representation of the middle West. The desire to effect an equitable redistribution has, I believe, been realized, and the manner in which this difficult task has been accomplished will, I feel sure, meet with the approval of the electorate.

It is satisfactory to observe that, as the co-ordination of the Canadian National Railway lines and facilities becomes increasingly effective, the prospects grow brighter for the success of this great national undertaking. To facilitate the construction of much-needed branch lines, legislation has been enacted to authorize the construction of certain mileage over a term of years. This statutory provision should enable the management to plan its construction programme definitely and economically. While the programme of railroad construction contemplated by the Board of Directors of the Canadian National Railways has been curtailed, the construction of the branch lines for which provision has been made should assist in relieving in part the difficulties experienced by settlers in sections of the country which these lines will serve, and in accelerating the movement of new settlers to the land.

Among many other important measures, provision has been made for the investigation and study of tariff problems and other forms of taxation by expert