

*Royal Assent***THE ROYAL ASSENT**

A message was delivered by Major C. R. Lamoureux, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, as follows:

Mr. Speaker, the Honourable the Deputy Governor General desires the immediate attendance of this honourable house in the chamber of the honourable the Senate.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker with the house went up to the Senate chamber.

In the Senate Chamber, the Deputy Governor General was pleased to give, in Her Majesty's name, the royal assent to the following bills:

An act respecting Interprovincial Pipe Line Company.

An act to incorporate Anniversary Life Insurance Company.

An act respecting La Société des Artisans.

An act to incorporate Laurier Life Insurance Company.

An act to amend the National Defence Act and other acts in consequence thereof.

An act respecting the occupational training of adults.

An act to amend the Income Tax Act.

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

In Her Majesty's name, the Honourable the Deputy Governor General doth assent to these bills.

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

May it please Your Honour:

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 to Your Honour the following bill:

An act for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money for the public service for the financial year ending the 31st March, 1968.

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

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

In Her Majesty's name, the Honourable the Deputy Governor General thanks her loyal subjects, accepts their benevolence and assents to this bill.

**PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT**

After which the Deputy Governor General was pleased to close the first session of the twenty seventh parliament of Canada with the following speech:

[Mr. Baldwin.]

*Honourable Members of the Senate:**Members of the House of Commons:*

During the first Session of the twenty-seventh Parliament, which opened on January 18th, 1966, much important legislation has been enacted and many government actions of great significance have been approved.

The hearts of all Canadians were saddened during this session by the death of our distinguished and well-beloved Governor-General, His Excellency General Georges P. Vanier. His selfless devotion to duty during a lifetime of public service will always be an inspiration and an example to all.

Recognizing the vital importance to Canada of effective administration of our public affairs, early in the session you approved a measure providing for an extensive reorganization affecting certain departments of the government to enable them to respond more appropriately to the needs they serve, and to facilitate closer co-ordination in various fields of government activity. You also have enacted three measures which together make provision for a complete transformation of the processes of personnel management in the Public Service of Canada. They provide for the introduction of collective bargaining and for the continuation and extension of the merit principle of appointment under an independent Public Service Commission. My government has also announced a series of programmes designed to encourage the development of bilingual skills within the Public Service of Canada.

Following an important Federal-Provincial Conference held in October, major improvements were made in the fiscal arrangements with the provincial governments. A new system of equalization payments was introduced which will enable all provincial governments to provide a reasonably comparable level of basic services. A new revenue stabilization policy will protect provinces against serious declines in total revenues. Substantial additional financial resources have also been made available to the provinces in respect of the costs of post-secondary education.

You have completed the first comprehensive review of the Bank Act in the past decade, and have approved a measure amending that Act to bring it into line with present day needs. This statute completes the most thorough and far-reaching revision of our banking legislation that has ever been made, and will increase the degree of competition and flexibility both within the banking system and between the banks and other financial institutions, thereby improving the service available to the people of Canada. A further step in the strengthening of our financial system was the adoption of legislation to establish the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Approval was given to the Canada-U.S. agreement on automotive products. My government regards this agreement as one of the most important trading arrangements ever made between Canada and the United States. It has already led to a substantial increase in production and employment in the automotive industry, and to a significant decrease in the imbalance of trade between the two countries in these products.

In recognition of the importance of science and technology to Canada's industrial and economic well-being, you approved during this session a measure to provide incentives to increase activity in industrial research and development