

The government also considers that it is advisable to revise and clarify the definition of Canadian citizenship, and to bring the legislation respecting national status, naturalization and immigration into conformity with the definition of citizenship. You will be asked to approve the required measures.

The government has also been giving consideration to the most suitable manner in which to commemorate, in the capital of Canada, the service and sacrifice of Canadians in the war just ended. In the past, the sacrifice of human life in war has most frequently been commemorated in monuments of bronze and stone. Such a memorial our capital already has. My ministers are of the opinion that something more expressive of the vision of a new world order would, at this time, be most appropriate. They believe that this vision would best find expression in the planned development and beautification of the national capital and its surrounding area as a national memorial. Steps have already been taken to plan the development of the city and region of Ottawa on both sides of the Ottawa river. As plans are formulated, specific proposals will, from time to time, be submitted to parliament for consideration.

On the recommendation of the government of Canada, His Majesty the King has been pleased to select Field Marshal the Honourable Sir Harold Alexander as my successor as his representative in Canada. Field Marshal Alexander's duties will not permit of his assumption of office until early in the new year. Meanwhile Her Royal Highness Princess Alice and I will pay a short visit to the United Kingdom, returning to Canada for a brief stay before our official departure.

As you take up your heavy responsibilities in these difficult days of reconstruction, I pray that Almighty God may guide and bless your deliberations. May you be inspired by the vision of the better future for humanity which it is now within the power of the united nations to create.

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING
(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 the introduction of bills, government notices of motions and government orders, until disposed of.

Motion agreed to.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING
(Prime Minister) moved:

That a special committee be appointed to prepare and report, with all convenient speed, lists of members to compose standing committees of this house under standing order 63, said committee to be composed of Messrs. Mackenzie, Chevrier, Casselman, Knowles and Weir.

Motion agreed to.

INTERNAL ECONOMY COMMISSION

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING
(Prime Minister) presented the following message from His Excellency the Governor General:

The Governor General transmits to the House of Commons a certified copy of an approved minute of council appointing the Honourable Ian A. Mackenzie, Minister of Veterans Affairs, the Honourable J. L. Ilsley, Minister of Finance, the Honourable J. A. MacKinnon, Minister of Trade and Commerce, and the Honourable L. S. St. Laurent, Minister of Justice, to act with the Speaker of the House of Commons as commissioners for the purposes and under the provisions of chapter 145 of the revised statutes of Canada, 1927, intitled: An Act Respecting the House of Commons.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

INTERIM SUPPLY

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING
(Prime Minister): Members of the house who were present at the last session of the last parliament will recall that supply was voted only until the end of August. There is no supply at the present time to carry on the business of government during this month of September, and should a measure of interim supply not be voted meanwhile, if the debate on the address should continue for several days, running past the fifteenth of this month, it would not be possible for members of the civil service to receive their cheques at that time. It is customary not to set up the committees of supply and ways and means until after the address in reply to the speech of His Excellency has been agreed to. Having this in mind I conferred this morning with the leader of the opposition and with other leaders of groups opposite, and I believe I may say that, reserving all rights to members of the house with respect to such discussion as may arise on a motion for the purpose, they would be agreeable, if other hon. members are, to the house immediately setting up these two committees of the house. This procedure would enable the Minister of Finance (Mr. Ilsley) on Monday next to ask the house for interim supply, of an amount sufficient to enable us to carry on for a limited time. If that is agreeable to hon. members I would move:

That this house resolve itself at its next sitting into a committee to consider of supply to be granted to His Majesty, notwithstanding the provisions of standing order 57.

Standing order 57, the one to which I refer, reads:

The house will appoint the committees of supply and ways and means at the commencement of every session, so soon as an address has been agreed to, in answer to His Excellency's speech.