

# HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, October 18, 1977

## THIRD SESSION—THIRTIETH PARLIAMENT—OPENING

[English]

The Parliament, which had been prorogued on the seventeenth day of October, 1977, met this day at Ottawa for the dispatch of business.

The House met at 3.52 p.m., the Speaker in the chair.

**Mr. Speaker** read a communication from the Canadian Secretary to the Queen announcing that Her Majesty the Queen would proceed to the Senate chamber at 3.45 p.m. on this day for the purpose of formally opening the third session of the thirtieth Parliament of Canada.

A message was delivered by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod as follows:

Mr. Speaker, it is the pleasure of the Queen that this honourable House attend her immediately in the chamber of the honourable the Senate.

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

And the House being returned to the Commons chamber.

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[Translation]

### OATHS OF OFFICE

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister)** moved for leave to introduce Bill No. C-1, respecting the administration of oaths of office.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

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### SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

**Mr. Speaker:** I have the honour to inform the House that, when this House did attend Her Majesty the Queen this day in the Senate chamber, Her Majesty was pleased to make a speech to both houses of parliament. To prevent mistakes I have obtained a copy, which is as follows:

[French text]

*Honourable Members of the Senate:*

*Members of the House of Commons:*

I have greatly looked forward to being with you here in the Canadian Parliament in my Silver Jubilee year. Whenever I am in this wonderful country

of Canada, with her vast resources and unlimited challenges, I feel thankful that Canadians have been so successful in establishing a vigorous democracy well suited to a proud and free people.

In this historic Chamber surrounded by the symbols and records of generations of Canadian legislators, I am very conscious of what Parliament has achieved—by transforming the visions and ideals of a great country into the enduring law of the land.

[English text]

In ten visits together to Canada spread over a quarter of a century—seven in the last decade alone—Prince Philip and I have met many thousands of Canadians in all walks of life, of all ages, in every province and territory. My happiest memories of our travels throughout Canada have been these individual contacts which have revealed the enormous strength and astonishing diversity of this nation.

A generation of Canadians has been born, and grown to maturity during my reign. I know you will understand when I say that I have a special interest in these young men and women, contemporaries of our own children. They are people made strong by the achievements of their parents and grandparents, but not imprisoned by the prejudices of the past. In their sensitivity towards other people, in their sense of justice, their generosity and good will, lie not only lessons for us all, but also the best and surest hope for unity and understanding among Canadians everywhere. I look forward in meeting more of them next year in Edmonton when I shall have the pleasure of opening the Commonwealth Games.

I have always been full of admiration for what Canada is: the new generation fill me with confidence for what Canada can become.

[French text]

The growth of those young men and women over the past quarter-century has been matched by a rapid expansion of Canada's economic strength and international stature.

Within an evolving Commonwealth, Canada's influence is steadily growing, particularly as an advocate of human dignity, justice and co-operation.

This greater influence has been used by Canada to pursue such critical goals as a more equitable sharing of wealth and opportunity, the enhancement of individual freedom, the conservation of the planet's scarce resources, and the prudent control of nuclear technology.

The post-war period of sustained economic growth conferred great new wealth upon Canada. Productivity and standards of living improved substantially, and the country could afford to provide better economic protection for the sick, the aged, the unemployed and the poor.

But growth produced new sets of problems with which the world community has not yet learned to cope successfully.

High rates of unemployment and inflation are clear signals of the inadequacy of economic strategies appropriate to simpler times. They are also signals of the urgent need for important structural adjustments in the economies of Canada and other industrialized countries. More than that, they are the symptoms of an illness which can be cured only by a readjustment of our values, and by a re-discovery of the merits of self-discipline and fair sharing.

The process of change will require continued consultation with Canadians, so that there may be a shared appreciation of current problems, and a shared acceptance of strategies for the future.

The government publications entitled *The Way Ahead* and *The Agenda For Co-operation* were designed to involve all Canadians in the discussion of how best to adapt to changing economic circumstances.

The changes that are now taking place impose burdens on some Canadians, and the Government remains committed to protecting these individuals.