

## THE SENATE

Thursday, August 31, 1950

The Senate met at 3 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

## BUSINESS OF THE SENATE

**Hon. Wishart McL. Robertson:** Honourable senators, before the Orders of the Day are proceeded with I wish to make a brief statement about the sittings of the Senate. I am advised that the other place will proceed at once with the speedy consideration of the business before it, and that it contemplates sitting this Saturday and on Monday next. It is hoped that within a reasonable period of time the debate on the Speech from the Throne and the sessional program of legislation will be dealt with and disposed of more or less concurrently.

Our present situation is not unlike that in ordinary sessions, when parliament assembles on Thursday and the Senate adjourns until the following Tuesday, I am sure honourable senators would not wish me to move the adjournment of the house today until Tuesday next if any useful purpose could be served by our sitting tomorrow or on Monday; but as I cannot think of any real reason why we should sit tomorrow or Monday, I intend to move when the house rises today that it adjourn until next Tuesday at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. I should like to suggest that by then if it appears that the business of parliament is moving rapidly, honourable senators who wish to participate in the debate on the Address should be prepared to do so. If at that time an early completion of the debate on the Address should seem desirable, we might even consider sitting in the evenings so that we may in no way delay the business of parliament.

I have made inquiry and have ascertained that none of the legislation to be brought before parliament could by any stretch of the imagination be introduced in the Senate. Therefore, as no useful purpose would be served by our sitting tomorrow, at the end of today's sitting I shall move that we adjourn until Tuesday.

## SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

## ADDRESS IN REPLY

The Senate proceeded to the consideration of His Excellency the Governor General's speech at the opening of the Third (Special) Session of the Twenty-first Parliament of Canada.

**Hon. Vincent Dupuis** moved:

That the following Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General of Canada:—

To His Excellency Field Marshal The Right Honourable Viscount Alexander of Tunis, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Companion of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, Companion of the Distinguished Service Order, upon whom has been conferred the Decoration of the Military Cross, one of His Majesty's Aides-de-Camp General, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief in and over Canada.

May it Please Your Excellency:

We, His Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Senate of Canada, in parliament assembled, beg leave to offer our humble thanks to Your Excellency for the gracious speech which Your Excellency has addressed to both houses of parliament.

He said:

(Translation):

Honourable senators, I have been given the duty as well as the honour, however filled with perils it may be, to move the address in reply to the speech from the throne.

When my distinguished leader informed me that the task was to be mine, considering the gravity of the present situation, I willingly complied with his request.

The speech from the throne which His Excellency the Governor General graciously read at the opening of this session contains but two requests: the first deals with the settlement of the railway strike, the other with our participation in the Korean war.

As I speak to you now, the railway strike has come to an end. A bill to this effect has been passed by both houses and assented to by His Excellency the Governor General at ten o'clock last evening.

I seize this opportunity with great pleasure to congratulate the Prime Minister, personally, as well as on behalf of most members of Parliament and the public at large, upon his tact, his moderation, his spirit of conciliation and, in short, his genius in the settlement of a dispute which threatened to paralyse our national economy.

Nonetheless, the foremost problem at the present time undeniably concerns the part which our country, as a member of the United Nations and signatory of the Atlantic Charter, must take in the Korean conflict.

The nations of the world have barely emerged from the most horrible universal conflagration we have ever witnessed, and we find ourselves threatened by another catastrophe which may prove to be the most disastrous of all times. In fact, this new war may bring our ideology to an end and jeopardize the very existence of humanity.

As we know, when the North Koreans invaded the Southern Republic of Korea,