

## THE SENATE

Wednesday, December 7, 1983

### OPENING OF SECOND SESSION THIRTY-SECOND PARLIAMENT

Parliament having been summoned by Proclamation to meet this day for the dispatch of business—

The Senate met at 2.30 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.  
Prayers.

### COMMUNICATION FROM GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SECRETARY

The Hon. the Speaker informed the Senate that a communication had been received from the Secretary to the Governor General, as follows:

RIDEAU HALL  
OTTAWA  
GOVERNMENT HOUSE

7 December, 1983

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that His Excellency the Governor General will arrive at the Main Entrance of the Parliament Buildings at 2.45 p.m. on this day, Wednesday, the 7th day of December, 1983.

When it has been signified that all is in readiness, His Excellency will proceed to the Chamber of the Senate to open formally the Second Session of the Thirty-Second Parliament of Canada.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,

Your obedient servant,  
Esmond Butler  
Secretary to the Governor General

The Honourable

The Speaker of the Senate,  
Ottawa

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.

### SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

At 3 p.m. His Excellency the Governor General proceeded to the Senate Chamber and took his seat upon the Throne. His

Excellency was pleased to command the attendance of the House of Commons, and, that House being come, with their Speaker, His Excellency was pleased to open the Second Session of the Thirty-Second Parliament of Canada with the following speech:

*Honourable Members of the Senate,*

*Members of the House of Commons:*

I have the honour to welcome you to the Second Session of the 32nd Parliament of Canada.

Canadians had the great pleasure of welcoming their Royal Highnesses, the Prince and Princess of Wales on an extended tour in June and July of this year. All who saw them were impressed by their friendly, out-going manner and their youthful dignity. As well, since April 1980, we have had the pleasant duty of hosting and meeting with fourteen foreign Heads of State visiting Canada.

We join fellow Canadians in looking forward to the scheduled visit to Canada in 1984 of Her Majesty, the Queen, and His Royal Highness, the Duke of Edinburgh, who will tour the provinces of Ontario, New Brunswick and Manitoba.

You recently completed an historic session of Parliament. The Constitution was brought home and with it came the final attainment of full Canadian sovereignty. The entrenchment of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms will forever help protect the liberty of our citizens. The vital energy and transportation industries are being transformed by the passage of the National Energy Program and the Western Grain Transportation Act. A co-operative national campaign to cut the rate of inflation in half was initiated through the 6 and 5 program. Members and Honourable Senators present all played an active part in these momentous events.

We meet today in a perilous time. East-West tensions are rising. Violence stalks many lands. The resort to force is a daily occurrence. The nuclear threat preys upon the hopes and dreams of every man and woman on the planet. The pursuit of peace must be the paramount goal of mankind. In this quest we must not fail.

For the past several years Canadians, indeed all people, have coped not only with the melancholy of the nuclear threat, but with the reality of the worst recession since the 1930s. This recession, which left more than thirty million people unemployed in the industrialized nations alone, is fortunately ending. Unemployment in all countries will remain too high for too long. But Canada has dramatically reduced the inflation which was the origin of this downturn. Our regained strength, combined with the