

THE SENATE

Wednesday, October 11, 1978

OPENING OF FOURTH SESSION

THIRTIETH PARLIAMENT

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

The Senate met at 3.00 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.
Prayers.

COMMUNICATION FROM GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SECRETARY

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, I have received the following communication:

RIDEAU HALL
OTTAWA
GOVERNMENT HOUSE

October 11, 1978

Madam:

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 11th of October 1978, and when it has been signified that all is in readiness, will proceed to the Chamber of the Senate to open formally the Fourth Session of the Thirtieth Parliament of Canada.

I have the honour to be,
Madam,
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 Fourth

Session of the Thirtieth 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 Fourth Session of the 30th Parliament of Canada.

During the course of the past summer Her Majesty The Queen came to visit Newfoundland and Saskatchewan, and to open the Commonwealth Games. She joined all Canadians in congratulating the thousands of volunteer workers who helped make the Games so successful, and with all of us she applauded the remarkable achievements of Canadian athletes at Edmonton.

The Duke of Edinburgh visited British Columbia as well, where His Royal Highness took part in the two hundredth anniversary observance of Captain Cook's voyage to the Pacific Coast.

My wife and I paid an official visit to the King and Queen of Spain, who welcomed us most hospitably. Through us, Spain expressed its friendship and high regard for all Canadians.

As the end of my term of office approaches, my wife and I would like to thank parliamentarians and the people of Canada for the respect and affection which they have extended to us on countless occasions over the years.

We wish also to express our love for Canada. A great country is not created without difficulty, but to see it develop and grow stronger despite every obstacle has been for us a source of great joy and pride. Our faith in the future of Canada is stronger than it has ever been.

I: Urgent Action Needed

Parliament begins today a new Session which will concentrate upon Canada's two most pressing needs. They are the strengthening of our economy, and the renewal of our federation.

Those two inseparable imperatives are different expressions of the same goal: to strengthen Canada through unity: to unify Canada through economic strength.

Seldom in the past have the seriousness of the challenge, the strength of our national will, and the scope of our opportunities combined to create for Canada a moment in history so full of potential for good. Such a moment, if ignored, may not soon come again. That is one reason why you should approach your task with urgency.