

THE DEBATES
OF THE
SENATE OF CANADA

IN THE
THIRD SESSION OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF CANADA, APPOINTED TO MEET FOR
THE DESPATCH OF BUSINESS ON THURSDAY, THE TWELFTH DAY OF
MARCH, IN THE THIRD YEAR OF THE REIGN OF

HIS MAJESTY KING EDWARD VII.

THE SENATE.

Ottawa, Thursday, March 12, 1903.

The Senate met at 2.30 p.m.

NEW SENATORS.

The following newly-appointed Senators were introduced :

Hon. J. M. LEGRIS, of Louiseville, Que.

Hon. F. T. FROST, of Smith's Falls, Ont.

THE SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

This day, at Three o'clock p.m., His Excellency the Governor General proceeded in state to the Senate Chamber, in the Parliament Buildings, and took his seat upon the Throne. The members of the Senate being assembled, His Excellency was pleased to command the attendance of the House of Commons, and that House being present, His Excellency was pleased to open the third session of the Ninth Parliament of the Dominion of Canada, with the following Speech :—

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate :

Gentlemen of the House of Commons :

I am glad to be able to congratulate you on the continued prosperity that prevails throughout the Dominion. Canada has received many blessings during the past year which call for the expression of our heartfelt gratitude to a kind Providence.

I had the pleasure of visiting London last summer in anticipation of the Coronation of His Majesty, and to meet on that occasion representatives from all parts of the Empire bringing with them assurances of the loyalty and contentment that prevails throughout His Majesty's widely extended possessions ; and though, at one time, fears were entertained that the King's illness would have involved a further postponement of the ceremony, it was a source of much joy and happiness to His Majesty's subjects that his health was so speedily and perfectly restored.

Representatives of this government participated in the important Colonial Conference which was called by His Majesty's Government in connection with the Coronation. The report of the proceedings of the conference, including the documents submitted by the Canadian representatives, has already been given to the public, by His Majesty's Government in London. I feel assured that much good will result from the bringing the leading public men of the great self-governing colonies into direct contact with each other and with the statesmen of the motherland.

The great influx of population into our North-western territories and the very large additional areas of fertile land which are being brought under cultivation combine to further press upon us the need for increased transportation facilities for the forwarding of our grain and other products to the markets of the world, through Canadian channels. The whole question of transportation and terminal facilities continues to occupy much attention,