

A Canadian delegation is participating in the Disarmament Conference, which was opened at Geneva on the 2nd of February. I join with you in the prayer that the representatives of the nations there assembled may reach an understanding which will put beyond peril the cause of enduring world peace.

On the invitation of my Government, an Economic Conference of members of the British Commonwealth of Nations will meet in Ottawa on July 18 next.

The Geneva Narcotics Convention of 1931, the Red Cross, Prisoners of War and other conventions, will be submitted for your approval.

Among the other measures to which your attention will be invited will be a Bill relating to insurance and Bills relating to patents and trade-marks.

You will also be asked to consider Bills to amend the Canada Shipping Act and the Fisheries Act.

Members of the House of Commons:

The public accounts for the last fiscal year and the estimates for the coming year will be submitted at an early date. The estimates will conform to my Ministers' determination to maintain a policy of rigid economy, consistent with the discharge of those statutory and contractual obligations, which is essential to the preservation of the integrity and credit of the Dominion.

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

I sincerely congratulate you on the fortitude and patience with which the people of Canada have borne the hardships of this period of depression and maintained their usual high regard for law and order. A sense of unity more abundantly prevails. The spirit of sympathetic co-operation has been strengthened. The Canadian people have united in the fight against adversity. Prosperity is their just reward. I know it will be your privilege, by the unselfish and zealous discharge of your duties to hasten its return. May Divine Providence bless and guide you in your deliberations.

His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to retire, and the House of Commons withdrew.

The sitting of the Senate was resumed.

## RAILWAY BILL

### FIRST READING

Bill A, an Act relating to Railways.—Right Hon. Mr. Meighen.

## CONSIDERATION OF HIS EXCELLENCY'S SPEECH

On motion of Right Hon. Mr. Meighen, it was ordered that the speech of His Excellency the Governor General be taken into consideration on Monday next.

The Senate adjourned until Monday, February 8, at 8 p.m.

Hon. Mr. SPEAKER.

## THE SENATE

Monday, February 8, 1932.

The Senate met at 8 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

### COMMITTEE ON ORDERS AND PRIVILEGES

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN moved:

That all the senators present during the session be appointed a committee to consider the Orders and Customs of the Senate and Privileges of Parliament, and that the said committee have leave to meet in the Senate Chamber when and as often as they please.

The motion was agreed to.

### COMMITTEE OF SELECTION

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN moved:

That the following senators be appointed a Committee of Selection to nominate senators to serve on the several standing committees during the present session: the Honourable Messieurs Belcourt, Buchanan, Dandurand, Daniel, Graham, Robertson, Sharp, White (Pembroke), and the mover.

The motion was agreed to.

## THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SPEECH

### ADDRESS IN REPLY

The Senate proceeded to the consideration of His Excellency the Governor General's speech at the opening of the session.

Hon. CHARLES C. BALLANTYNE moved:

That the following Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General to offer the humble thanks of this House to His Excellency for the gracious Speech which he has been pleased to make to both Houses of Parliament; namely:

To His Excellency Captain the Right Honourable the Earl of Bessborough, a Member of His Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of the Dominion of 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: Honourable senators, I realize that it is an old custom that one of the recent appointees to this House should be chosen for the important task of moving the Address in reply to the Speech from the