

come and being seated at the foot of the Throne, and the House of Commons having been summoned and being come with their Speaker, the Right Honourable the Deputy of the Governor General was pleased to give the Royal Assent to the following bills:

An Act to amend the Combines Investigation Act.

An Act to amend the Prairie Farm Assistance Act, 1939.

An Act to provide for privileges and immunities in respect of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

An Act to amend the Public Works Act.

After which the Right Honourable the Deputy of the Governor General was pleased to close the Fifth Session of the Twenty-First Parliament of Canada with the following speech:

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

The people of Canada have been deeply gratified by the rapid and steady recovery of the King's Health. The transcontinental tour of Their Royal Highnesses, the Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh, was the occasion for a universal and heart-felt manifestation of the attachment of the Canadian people to the Crown and the Royal Family.

Throughout the session, my ministers have continued to give constant attention to the policy of seeking the security of our country in co-operation with other peace-loving peoples through the establishment of real and lasting peace.

To resist aggression there and to discourage aggression elsewhere, armed forces of our country, combined with United Nations contingents from other countries, are performing their duties in Korea with valour and distinction. Meanwhile, negotiations to bring about a cease-fire have been undertaken and are continuing.

Elements of the Army and Air Force have been despatched to Europe to form part of the integrated force under the command of General Eisenhower.

In furtherance of our international policies, certain of my ministers have been absent from Canada for sessions of the General Assembly and other organs of the United Nations, for meetings of the Council and other organs of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization; and for the negotiation of a Pacific Fisheries Treaty with the United States and Japan.

You have approved of a protocol which provides for the extending of an invitation to Greece and Turkey to join the North Atlantic Alliance.

You have enacted legislation to implement agreements between the parties to the North Atlantic Treaty regarding the status of their forces. You also enacted a measure respecting the Canadian Forces.

The Pension Act has been amended to provide for substantial increases in the rates of pension for disabled veterans and widows of veterans and for their dependents.

In response to the main purpose for which you were summoned to the present session, you have enacted a measure to provide for the payment, from January 1, 1952, of pensions as a matter of right and without a means test to all Canadians with appropriate residence qualifications who have attained the age of seventy years.

You have given your approval to a measure to prohibit persons engaged in manufacturing, buying or selling articles or commodities from fixing specific or minimum resale prices.

You have authorized the creation of a corporation to be known as "The St. Lawrence Seaway Authority" for the purpose of constructing, operating and maintaining, either alone or in co-operation with the United States, a deep waterway between Montreal and Lake Erie.

You have also approved an agreement between the government of Canada and the government of the province of Ontario with respect to the development by Ontario, concurrently with an appropriate authority in the United States, of hydro-electric power in the international rapids section of the St. Lawrence river.

The Railway Act, the Canadian National-Canadian Pacific Act and the Maritime Freight Rates Act have been amended in general conformity with the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Transportation.

You have made legislative provision for a limited guarantee of short-term bank credit to grain producers in the Prairie Provinces, in order to meet temporary financial difficulties resulting from inclement weather during the harvest season.

You have passed legislation embodying recommendations of the Royal Commission on National Development in the Arts, Letters and Sciences with respect to radio broadcasting. You have also revised the legislation respecting the National Gallery of Canada along the lines of the recommendations of the Commission. My government is continuing to give careful consideration to other recommendations in the Commission's report.

You enacted measures respecting the Agricultural Products Board, Canada Land Surveys, the Revised Statutes of Canada and the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling.

Amendments have been made to the Dominion Elections Act; the Judges Act, 1946; the Exchequer Court Act; the Supreme Court Act; the Public Printing and Stationery Act; the Bills of Exchange Act; the Canada-United States of America Tax Convention Acts of 1943 and 1944; the Civil Service Act; the Toronto Harbour Commissioners Act; and the North Fraser Harbour Commissioners Act.

You enacted a measure providing for the financial administration of the government of Canada, the audit of the public accounts and the financial control of crown corporations.

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

May Divine Providence continue its blessings upon our nation and upon the efforts of peace-loving peoples to establish the rule of law in the relations between nations.