

An Act for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money for the public service of the financial year ending the 31st March, 1936.

“To which Bills I humbly request Your Excellency’s Assent.”

After the Clerk had read the titles of these Bills,

To these Bills the Royal Assent was pronounced by the Clerk of the Senate in the following words:—

“In His Majesty’s name His Excellency the Governor General thanks His Loyal Subjects, accepts their benevolence, and assents to these Bills,”

After which His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to close the 6th Session of the Seventeenth Parliament of the Dominion of Canada, with the following Speech:—

*Honourable Members of the Senate:*

*Members of the House of Commons:*

In bringing to a close the last session of the 17th Parliament of Canada I congratulate you upon the extent and importance of your legislative enactments.

My Ministers have for some time been convinced that reforms and adjustments in the existing economic system have become necessary to insure its more effective and equitable operation. Throughout the world there is a new approach on the part of governments to financial and economic problems, and I confidently believe that The Economic Council of Canada, for which you have provided will in the future become an important factor in the Government service for the correlation of information and scientific investigation.

By The Natural Products Marketing Act, enacted at the last session of Parliament, you provided for investigations into costs, price spreads, trade practices and other matters related to the production, marketing and processing of natural products.

During the present session you have amended that Statute and the Combines Investigation Act; the Companies Act and the Criminal Code; and provided for the establishment of a Dominion Trade and Industry Commission. These measures will insure to investors security against fraud; to the producer and distributor, the elimination of unfair practices, to the consumer higher standards of products, and to the Dominion a condition of healthy competition in industry. The provision made for the appointment of a Director of Public Prosecutions ensures the enforcement of these enactments.

By the legislation enacted respecting minimum wages, hours of work and weekly rest, the Parliament of Canada has made an important advance in the field of social legislation. These measures are of great importance because of their bearing upon economic conditions throughout the country and because they represent Canada’s determination to maintain fair and humane conditions of labour for men, women and children in keeping with the national obligations under The Treaties of Peace and the Conventions adopted by the General Conference of the International Labour Organizations of the League of Nations, to which Canada subscribed.

Through the action of my Government, in co-operation with the financial institutions of the country, Canada enjoys the most favourable interest rates in its history. The provision which you have made for loans to farmers at low interest rates, and the measure which you have enacted during the last session of Parliament respecting farmers’ indebtedness have improved their economic