

Then the Honourable the Speaker of the House of Commons addressed His Excellency the Governor General, as follows:

May it please Your Excellency:

The Commons of Canada have voted the Supplies required to enable the Government to defray the Expenses of the Public Service.

In the name of the Commons, I present to Your Excellency the following Bills:—

An Act for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money for the public service of the financial year ending the 31st March, 1918.

An Act for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money for the public service of the financial year ending the 31st March, 1918.

To these Bills I humbly request Your Excellency's assent.

Then, after the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery 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 seventh session of the twelfth Parliament of the Dominion of Canada with the following Speech:

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate:
Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

Important measures for the effective prosecution of the war have engaged your close attention during a long session, and I am now happy to release you from further attendance.

Since your labours began, the high and worthy character of our cause has been confirmed by two significant events. Our allies, the Russian people, are engaged under trying circumstances, in establishing institutions which shall fully conform to their ideals of liberty and order. In the midst of inevitable difficulties, which command our sympathy, they have affirmed their determination to remain faithful to the Alliance.

The United States of America, refusing to tolerate the arrogance and menace of Prussian Militarism have made common cause with the Allies and are vigorously co-operating in the struggle for freedom and humanity. Already the Canadian people have given many expressions of the warm welcome with which they greet their great kindred neighbour as a comrade in arms.

The meetings of the Imperial War Cabinet and Imperial War Conference in the early part of the year have very materially facilitated the thorough co-operation of the Dominion, both in the prosecution of the war in preparation for the future. They constitute also an important step in the development of constitutional relationships between the nations of the British Commonwealth.

Notwithstanding the increasing military strength of the allied nations, the stubborn resistance of the enemy in all important theatres of the war demonstrates the need of throwing our utmost effort into the struggle and thus

hastening the day of abiding peace. In the western theatre the Canadian Army Corps, by its capture of the coveted Vimy Ridge and by its recent operations at Lens, has sustained its distinguished record and contributed in important measure to the ascendancy which the Allies have gained in that theatre.

In order to secure the reinforcements essential for the support of our forces further steps have become necessary, and the authority you have granted for compulsory military enlistment on a selective basis will meet the urgent need for reinforcements. At the same time it will provide the means for conserving more effectively the essential agricultural and industrial activities of the Dominion.

You have recognized your duty in providing the best possible safeguards for enabling those engaged in the defence of their country to have their voice in the decision of national questions which vitally affect them. For this purpose, as well as to give due recognition to service and sacrifice in the affairs of the State, the necessary adjustments which you have made in the legislation relevant to these matters will doubtless prove effective.

The legislation you have passed for the purpose of assisting returned soldiers to settle upon the land will not only aid materially in restoring these gallant men to their rightful status in the community but should greatly increase the agricultural production of the country.

The appointment of a Food Controller and of a Fuel Controller invested with important powers and duties is founded upon the impressive need of the utmost economy and saving in order that our national strength may continue unimpaired.

In order that our industries may be equipped to cope with the intricate problems of the future, provision has been wisely made for promoting scientific and industrial research.

Important progress has been made in solving our difficult problems of railway transportation, and the means have been provided whereby a great railway system shall become the property of the people of Canada and be added to their national undertakings;

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

In the name of His Majesty I thank you for the liberal provision you have made for the needs of the public service and for the prosecution of the war.

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate:
Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

Although the stress of the war becomes increasingly severe, the people of Canada, resolute in the supreme purpose of achieving through victory an abiding peace, have not faltered; and I am confident that whatever further efforts are necessary will be unhesitatingly put forth in the stern determination that the vast sacrifices already made shall not be in vain.

The Honourable the Speaker of the Senate then said:

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate:

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

It is His Excellency the Governor General's will and pleasure that this Parliament be prorogued until Thursday, the 1st day of November next, to be here holden, and the Parliament is accordingly prorogued until Thursday, the 1st day of November next.