

*Prorogation of Parliament*

Then the Speaker of the House of Commons addressed the Deputy Governor General as follows:

May it please Your Honour:

The Commons of Canada have voted supplies required to enable the government to defray certain expenses of the public service.

In the name of the Commons I present to Your Honour the following bill:

An act for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money for the public service of the financial year ending the 31st March, 1960.

To which bill I humbly request Your Honour's assent.

To this bill the Clerk of the Senate, by command of the Deputy Governor General, did thereupon say:

In Her Majesty's name, the Honourable the Deputy Governor General thanks her loyal subjects, accepts their benevolence, and assents to this bill.

**PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT**

After which the Deputy Governor General was pleased to close the second session of the twenty-fourth parliament of Canada with the following speech:

Honourable members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

Canadians have welcomed with profound gratitude the visit of Her Gracious Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness the Prince Philip. Her Majesty and the prince are assured of the affection and devotion of the Canadian people and of their deep attachment to the Crown. To mark Her Majesty's visit you have established the Queen Elizabeth II research fund for research into the diseases of children.

It has been gratifying that the President of the United States was able to be present with our Queen on the occasion of the official opening of the St. Lawrence seaway.

Canadians are convinced that every effort must be made to attain and to preserve lasting peace in the world. My government is hopeful that it will be possible at summit meetings of heads of governments to make progress toward the settlement of such important issues as Germany, Berlin, nuclear test explosions and toward agreement on general disarmament.

Meanwhile, it is necessary to maintain the strength of the free world provided by the north Atlantic alliance. To this end an important decision has been reached to re-equip the Canadian air division in Europe with modern and up to date aircraft. You have been informed of the steps being taken for sharing with the United States the production and procurement of defence equipment and have approved an appropriation to support selected development programs related to production sharing.

The government recognizes that the peace of the world cannot be assured by defence measures alone and that economic assistance to less developed countries is a necessity and in Canada's interest. You have authorized an increase in Canada's contribution under the Colombo plan to provide further help for Asian and African nations, particularly those within the commonwealth. You have also voted substantial assistance for the new federation of the West Indies. You have approved a measure to increase Canada's subscriptions to the international bank and the international monetary fund.

It is encouraging to note the strong recovery from the recent recession both abroad and here at home. My government will continue to take whatever steps lie within its power to maintain employment and to sustain sound economic growth.

To improve the lot of those who unfortunately from time to time find themselves unemployed, you have made important amendments to the Unemployment Insurance Act.

Emphasis has continued to be placed on national development and financial provision has been made for numerous projects in this field.

Important measures have been approved for the agricultural sector of our economy. You have enacted legislation to provide for loans and grants for provincial crop insurance schemes and a statute has been passed under which long term mortgage credit can be made available to farmers. The new farm credit act provides for substantially larger loans than have hitherto been available.

A national energy board has been established. This important new agency will ensure that, so far as it is within the power of parliament, Canada's energy resources will be conserved and used in the best interests of all our people.

The Maritime Coal Production Assistance Act has been amended to enable a further measure of assistance to this industry on which the livelihood of so many Canadians depend.

You have amended the Export Credits Insurance Act and thus provided a further stimulus for our exports and our trade generally.

Several statutes which go to make up the veterans charter have been amended, broadening the range of benefits to veterans, particularly those who settle on the land.

The Federal-Provincial Tax Sharing Arrangements Act has been amended to extend the increase made last year in the provincial share of personal income tax revenue.

A conference of dominion and provincial ministers of finance and provincial treasurers was held early this month at which it was agreed that a comprehensive study should be undertaken of the problems of intergovernmental financial and economic relations. A further meeting will be held next October. Meanwhile, reports on many of these questions are being prepared by the federal-provincial continuing committee of officials.

You have enacted a measure to authorize the payment of additional annual grants to Newfoundland in accordance with the scale contained in the report of the royal commission on Newfoundland finances appointed in fulfilment of the obligation of the government of Canada under the terms of union of Newfoundland with Canada.

You have enacted a measure to alleviate the discriminatory effects of the last horizontal increase in freight rates and an inquiry has been instituted into a broad range of railway problems.

Changes have been made in the Criminal Code, including an important provision respecting obscene literature.

After study of the subject by a committee, you have approved a measure for the humane slaughter of food animals.

You have signified your approval of a new international wheat agreement negotiated within the past few months. The agreement has since been accepted.

You have provided for the appointment of parliamentary secretaries to ministers of the crown.

The supplementary pensions for retired civil servants, members of the armed services and of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, provided by appropriations last year, have been placed on a statutory basis.