

Speech from the Throne

the government, and then an opportunity given to the various groups in the house to consider the bill. It is perfectly apparent that this bill is not going to be passed to-night. I am certain that the bill will be dealt with much more expeditiously if we have it before us and have the explanation that will enable us to understand the intention of the government in presenting it. Then we shall have an opportunity to consider it and decide upon the course we shall follow, at which time I can assure the Prime Minister and the other members of the house that we shall be prepared to sit as long hours as may be desired and as continuously as any hon. member would wish.

Mr. Speaker: Has the Prime Minister leave to introduce the said bill?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

Mr. Speaker: When shall the bill be read the second time?

Mr. St. Laurent: Later this day.

GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SPEECH

Mr. Speaker: I have the honour to inform the house that when the house did attend His Excellency the Governor General this day in the Senate chamber, His Excellency was pleased to make a speech to both houses of parliament. To prevent mistakes, I have obtained a copy, which is as follows:

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

You were summoned to meet somewhat earlier than was anticipated because of the disruption of railway transportation facilities resulting from the dispute between the railways and the unions representing the non-operating employees of the railways. A measure to deal with this situation will be introduced at once.

You will also be asked to give urgent consideration to the measures for increased national security and international co-operation required by the fighting in Korea and the increasingly grave international situation which that struggle reflects. That was the original reason for summoning you for this special session.

Members of the House of Commons:

You will be asked to approve additional appropriations for national defence and the meeting of our obligations under the United Nations charter and the North Atlantic treaty.

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

May Divine Providence continue to protect this nation, and to guide the parliament of Canada in all its deliberations.

[Mr. Drew.]

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**CHANGES IN STANDING ORDERS**

Right Hon. L. S. St. Laurent (Prime Minister): By leave of the house I move, seconded by the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Howe):

That the following changes be made in the standing orders of the house for the duration of the present session:

1. The house shall meet on every sitting day, which shall include Saturdays, and the provisions of standing order No. 2 relating to the adjournment of the house on Friday shall be suspended.

2. That on Wednesday, August 30, 1950, and every sitting day thereafter until Bill No. 1, an act to provide for the resumption of operations of railways and for the settlement of the existing dispute with respect to terms and conditions of employment between railway companies and their employees, introduced this day, has been disposed of, the house shall meet at eleven o'clock, a.m., and that in addition to the usual intermission at six o'clock, p.m., there shall be an intermission every day from one to three o'clock, p.m.

3. Standing order No. 6 adjourning the house at six o'clock on Wednesdays shall be suspended and the procedure and order of business on Wednesdays shall in every respect be the same as on other days.

4. Government notices of motions and government orders shall have precedence over all other business except questions and notices of motions for the production of papers.

5. Standing order No. 15 relating to the consideration of private and public bills from eight until nine o'clock, p.m., on Tuesdays and Fridays shall be suspended.

6. Standing orders Nos. 63, 80, 84, 102 and 122 shall be suspended.

7. The provisions of standing order No. 46 requiring unanimous consent for a motion in case of urgent and pressing necessity shall be suspended.

8. Standing orders Nos. 69 to 77, both inclusive, shall be suspended in relation to public bills introduced by private members.

This is practically the same motion as that which was presented in 1939. On checking the orders that are referred to, hon. members will find that the motion is to make it possible to deal with this as a special session for the purpose of considering the matters referred to in the speech from the throne.

Mr. Coldwell: Mr. Speaker, I did not hear everything the Prime Minister said. My understanding is that the house sits at eleven, three and eight until Bill No. 1 is disposed of, and after that, if there is a feeling on the part of hon. members that we should not proceed on that basis—

Mr. St. Laurent: After that a new order of the house will have to be moved, and the sense of the house would have to be taken.

Mr. Coldwell: That is all I wished to have made clear.

Motion agreed to.