

The necessity of making adequate provision for the public services has compelled me to summon you at an earlier date than would otherwise have been necessary. In order to provide for present and immediate future needs, and to regularize expenditures already made, you will be asked forthwith to vote the necessary supply for the current financial year. It is not proposed to proceed with the ordinary business of the session until the reassembling of parliament in the new year.

Those government measures which passed the House of Commons at the last session of parliament, but which failed to become law, will be reintroduced. Amendments to the Canada Grain Act will also be submitted for your consideration.

With a view to expediting public business generally, it is proposed to afford opportunity for an early consideration of amendments to the rules of the House of Commons.

My government has continued to give special attention to the fuel problem and measures providing for assistance to works constructed for the production of domestic coke from Canadian coal will be submitted.

The report of the commission appointed under the Inquiries Act to examine and report upon conditions in the maritime provinces will be presented immediately and your attention will be invited to its recommendations. Measures dealing with the matters referred to in the report of the commission are now under consideration by my government, and certain legislation in respect thereto will be introduced.

Good progress has been made with work on the Hudson Bay railway and it is planned to continue construction at as early a date as possible next year. It has been decided to submit the study of conditions at the port to the careful examination of an outstanding British authority on tidal and estuarial conditions affecting harbours.

Canadian National branch line construction on the basis of a definite three-year programme having proved entirely successful, that method of dealing with necessary railway expansion will be continued, and another three-year programme will be submitted for your consideration.

You will also be asked to approve an agreement with the holders of Grand Trunk Pacific perpetual debentures.

Members of my government have just returned to Canada from attending the meetings of the Imperial conference. The report of the proceedings of the conference, together with its recommendations, will be placed before you for consideration. It will, I believe, be recognized that the joint labours of the governments represented at the conference have gone far to set forth the relations of the members of the British Commonwealth of Nations to one another and to foreign countries and to ensure a ready appreciation of the full measure of self-government now attained in all that relates to their domestic and external affairs. In the prolonged consideration given to specific matters of joint concern, the conference has done much to ensure the free and effective co-operation in common ends of the governments and peoples of the British Empire.

The recent appointment of a minister plenipotentiary accredited by His Majesty to represent the interests of Canada in the United

States marks an important stage in the development of the international relations of the Dominion.

The diamond jubilee of confederation will be appropriately celebrated during the coming year. I am pleased to inform you that His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has graciously accepted the invitation of my government to visit Canada, circumstances permitting, in connection with the celebration. My government has also extended an invitation to the Prime Minister of Great Britain; the Prime Minister has accepted the invitation and has expressed the hope that when the time arrives he may find it possible to be present.

Members of the House of Commons:

The estimates for the current fiscal year which have not hitherto been voted by parliament will, as already mentioned, be submitted for your approval forthwith. Estimates for the financial year 1927-28 will be submitted for your consideration when parliament reassembles.

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

In inviting your careful consideration of the important matters which will engage your attention, I pray that Divine Providence may guide and bless your deliberations.

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING
(Prime Minister) moved:

The the speech of His Excellency, the Governor General, to both houses of parliament be taken into consideration on Monday next, and that this order have precedence over all other business, except the introduction of bills, until disposed of.

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEES

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING
(Prime Minister) moved:

That a special committee be appointed to prepare and report, with all convenient speed, lists of members to compose the select standing committees of this House under rule 10, said committee to be composed of Messieurs King (Kootenay), P. F. Casgrain H. A. Stewart (Leeds) and R. B. Hanson.

Mr. ROBERT GARDINER (Acadia): Before you put the motion Mr. Speaker, I desire respectfully to call the attention of the Prime Minister to the fact that there are in this House two or three groups who have no representative on that committee. I can quite understand how, in the rush of business, after the Prime Minister's recent return from Great Britain, he has overlooked this situation, and I merely draw it to his attention, and would respectfully ask him to give these groups some representation on that committee.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I desire to point out to my hon. friend that the committee is a very small one, as he will observe, and I have not the slightest doubt that each member of the committee will be quite ready