

## BILLS ASSENTED TO

An Act to amend the Canada Shipping Act.

An Act to amend the Criminal Code.

An Act to readjust the Representation in the House of Commons.

An Act for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money for the public service of the financial year ending the 31st March, 1934.

## THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SPEECH

After which His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to close the Fourth 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 Fourth Session of the Seventeenth Parliament, I congratulate you upon the extent to which you have realized the hopes set forth in my address on the re-assembling of Parliament in October last.

It is deeply gratifying that the benefits of the Imperial Economic Conference Agreements now known throughout the world as the "Ottawa Agreements," to which legislative sanction was given in the early part of the session, are already reflected in a profitable and steadily increasing volume of Empire trade.

The measures which my Government has taken to maintain the integrity of national finance are already showing gratifying results. The credit of Canada throughout the world has been strengthened.

The last decennial census, upon which redistribution of the representation of the people in the House of Commons under the British North America Act is based, disclosed that Canada has now, like many other countries, a majority of its population residing in urban communities. Notwithstanding this added difficulty, a fair and equitable redistribution of the electoral divisions of the country has been accomplished.

The charters of Canadian banks have been extended for one year, in order that Parliament before undertaking the decennial revision of the Bank Act, may be informed of the conclusions of the World Monetary and Economic Conference and may have before it the findings

of a Royal Commission which my Government will shortly appoint, to consider Canadian Banking and Monetary Problems.

The intricate and difficult problems of railway transportation in Canada have been dealt with by legislation embodying the essential recommendations of the Royal Commission on Canadian Railways and Transportation. This legislation, based upon the principle of maintaining the integrity of our two transcontinental railway systems, aims to secure efficient and economic service and to provide means for ensuring co-operation between the two railways.

The agreement with the Republic of France, regulating customs tariffs, together with the convention governing the rights of nationals, commerce and shipping, which you have ratified, will, it is confidently believed, promote trade between and confer mutual benefits upon the two countries.

The amendments to the Pension Act which you have passed will enable the country more fairly and equitably and with less cumbersome and expensive machinery to discharge its obligations to those who served in the Great War.

Among other important measures passed were an Act to amend the Canada Grain Act, an Act to authorize the Governor in Council to agree to extend by proclamation the duration of the Canada-New Zealand Trade Agreement, an Act to amend the Canada Shipping Act, and Acts respecting Penitentiaries, His Majesty's Visiting Forces, the Criminal Code, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and Unemployment and Farm Relief.

Members of the House of Commons:

I thank you for the provisions you have made for the Public Service.

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

The courage with which the Canadian people have endured the burdens imposed upon them in these troubled times is witness to their great faith in the future of their country. It is, however, realized that co-operation amongst the peoples of the world is essential to recovery from the unprecedented conditions which have for so long prevailed in all countries.

In relieving you from attendance upon your parliamentary duties, I pray that Divine Providence may guide and bless you.