
PRAYERS.

The Honourable the Speaker informed the Senate that he had received a communication from the Secretary to the Governor General stating that His Excellency the Governor General would proceed to the Senate Chamber to open the Fifth Session of the Dominion Parliament this day at three o'clock in the afternoon.

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.

After a while, His Excellency the Governor General having come, and being seated on the Throne,—

The Honourable the Speaker commanded the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod to proceed to the House of Commons and acquaint that House that,—

It is His Excellency the Governor General's pleasure that they attend him immediately in the Senate Chamber.

The House of Commons being come,

His Excellency the Governor General was then pleased to open the Fifth Session of the eighteenth Parliament by a Gracious Speech to both Houses, as follows:—

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

As you are only too well aware, all efforts to maintain the peace of Europe have failed. The United Kingdom, in honouring pledges given as a means of avoiding hostilities, has become engaged in war with Germany. You have been summoned at the earliest moment in order that the Government may seek authority for the measures necessary for the defence of Canada, and for co-operation in the determined effort which is being made to resist further aggression, and to prevent the appeal to force instead of to pacific means in the settlement of international disputes. Already the Militia, the Naval Service and the Air Force have been placed on active service, and certain other provisions have been made for the defence of our coasts and our internal security under the War Measures Act and other existing authority. Proposals for further effective action by Canada will be laid before you without delay.

Members of the House of Commons:

You will be asked to consider estimates to provide for expenditure which has been or may be caused by the state of war which now exists.

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

I need not speak of the extreme gravity of this hour. There can have been few, if any, more critical in the history of the world. The people of Canada are facing the crisis with the same fortitude that to-day supports the peoples of the United Kingdom and other of the nations of the British Commonwealth.

My Ministers are convinced that Canada is prepared to unite in a national effort to defend to the utmost liberties and institutions which are a common heritage.

The Commons withdrew.

His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to retire.

The Senate was resumed.

The Honourable Senator Dandurand presented to the Senate a Bill intituled: "An Act relating to Railways."

The said Bill was read the first time.

The Honourable the Speaker informed the Senate that a copy of the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General had been left in his hands.

The same was read by the Honourable the Speaker.

On motion, it was—

Ordered, That the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General be taken into consideration at the next sitting of the Senate.

The Honourable Senator Dandurand laid on the Table:—

Copies of Documents relating to the outbreak of war, September, 1939. (English and French editions.)

(a) Communications exchanged between His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom and the Government of the German Reich, between the 22nd of August and the 3rd of September, 1939, together with statements made in the House of Commons by the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.

(b) Communications addressed by the Prime Minister of Canada to the Heads of certain European States in August, 1939, and replies thereto.

Also,—Copies of emergency Orders in Council passed from August 25th, 1939, to September 6th, 1939, bearing on the outbreak of hostilities in Europe, as follows:—

Orders in Council P.C. Nos.:—

2389—*Re* Issue of Special Warrant for \$8,918,930 for expenditures for Naval Service, Militia Service and Air Service.

2396—Regulations *re* calling out Militia under Section 63 of the Militia Act.

2397—*Re* Purchase of aircraft, spares and accessories up to \$7,500,000.

2412—*Re* Control of Shipping.

2413—*Re* Warrant for \$1,453,000 making provision for thirty days for Militia personnel, transportation, rations, engineer services and purchase of stores.

2434—*Re* Approval of Financial Regulations and Instructions for the Canadian Field Force covering pay and allowances, etc.

2441—*Re* Employment of parts and personnel of the Auxiliary Active Air Force and the Reserve Air Force.

2471—Warrant of \$150,000 *re* Air Raid Precautions.

2474—Constitution of sub-Committees of Council.

2475—Warrant for \$536,600 to cover expenses in connection with transfer of units of the Royal Canadian Air Force to East Coast and calling out for training of Auxiliary Air force, for a period of thirty days.

2476—Proclamation *re* meeting of Parliament on September 7, 1939.

2477—*Re* Proclamation concerning existence of apprehended war.

2478—Placing on active service the Reserve Naval Forces of Canada.

2479—Placing on active service the Permanent Naval Forces.