

PRAYERS.

The Honourable the Speaker informed the Senate that he had received a communication from the Secretary to the Governor General, as follows:—

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SECRETARY, CANADA

OTTAWA, 28th October, 1940.

SIR,—I have the honour to inform you that His Excellency the Governor General will arrive at the main entrance of the Houses of Parliament at 3 p.m. on Thursday the 7th November, next, and when it has been signified that all is in readiness, will proceed to the Senate Chamber to open the Second Session of the Nineteenth Parliament of Canada.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. S. REDFERN,

Secretary to the Governor General.

The Honourable
The Speaker of the Senate,
Ottawa.

Ordered, That the same do lie on the Table.

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 pleased to open the Session by a Gracious Speech to both Houses, as follows:—

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

Since last you met for deliberation, all countries have come to have a clearer conception of the magnitude of the present conflict and its menace to civilization. Additional nations have been threatened with war, or have become involved in war. But little of freedom is now left in Europe. Force and fear have been supplemented by subtle intrigue. International tension has been heightened by the formation of an alliance between the Axis powers and Japan.

While these events have added enormously to the uncertainties of the world situation, other events of even greater significance have served to confirm our confidence in the ultimate outcome of the struggle. First and foremost has been the magnificent resistance of the United Kingdom. For four months, Britain has constituted the front line of battle against the forces of aggression. The spectacular advance of the enemy has been halted by the indomitable spirit of her people.

The destruction of freedom throughout Europe has awakened, in the Western Hemisphere, a fuller consciousness of the Nazi menace. In the face of the common peril there has arisen a closer association and an increasing measure of co-operation between the United States of America and the nations of the British Commonwealth.

You have been summoned at this time that opportunity may be afforded for the fullest consideration and discussion of Canada's war effort and of national problems which war has served to intensify or create. You will be fully advised of international developments; of Canada's co-operation with the United Kingdom, and of relations with the United States. The measures which will be submitted to you are such as seem necessary to My Advisers for the welfare of the country, and for the prosecution of the war to the utmost of our strength.

Members of the House of Commons:

You will be asked to make financial provision for expenditure caused by the state of war which now exists. The estimates for the current fiscal year will be duly submitted to you for your consideration and approval.

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

In the discharge of your very responsible duties may Divine Providence guide and bless your deliberations.

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 on Tuesday, next.