

PRAYERS.

The Honourable the Speaker informed the Senate, that following the demise of the Sovereign, it is customary for the members of both Houses of Parliament to renew their oath of allegiance on the succession of His successor to the Throne, and that the Clerk is authorized to administer said oath.

The Honourable the Speaker read the following communication from His Excellency the Governor General:—

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

November 17, 1910.

MY DEAR SENATOR:

I have just received the handsomely bound and illuminated copy of the Address with which the Parliament of Canada honoured Lady Grey and me at the close of last session.

It is unnecessary, I feel sure, to tell you that this Address, reposing in the massive dignity of its silver couch, appropriately embellished with Beaver and Maple Leaves, shall ever hold a place of distinction in my home, reminding me and my family of very happy years spent in Canada, years illumined for us by constant interest and much enjoyment, by the excitement of unceasing developments, and by the sunshine of universal kindness.

Please accept from me, from Lady Grey and my daughters, the assurance of our heartfelt gratitude for this much valued memento of our stay in Canada and of the warm and friendly feelings entertained towards us by the people of the Dominion.

I remain with grateful acknowledgments to the Senate and the House of Commons for the honour they have done me,

Very sincerely yours,

GREY.

The Honourable the Speaker presented to the Senate a communication from the Governor General's Secretary.

The same was then read by the Honourable the Speaker, and it is as follows:—

GOVERNOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, CANADA.

OTTAWA, 15th November, 1910.

SIR,—I have the honour to inform you that His Excellency the Governor General will proceed to the Senate Chamber to open the Session of the Dominion Parliament on Thursday, the 17th November, at Three o'Clock.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

D. O. MALCOLM,
Governor General's Secretary.

The Honourable
The Speaker of the Senate.

The Senate was adjourned during pleasure.

His Excellency the Governor General and Commander in Chief of the Dominion of Canada, 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's pleasure that they attend him immediately in the Senate.”

Who being come, with their Speaker;
His Excellency the Governor General was then pleased to open the Session with the following gracious Speech to both Houses:—

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate:

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:—

When I prorogued Parliament in the month of May last, I was about completing the term usually allotted to the office of Governor General, but it has pleased His Majesty King George V. to continue me as His representative in Canada, and therefore it is my great pleasure again to greet you at the opening of this new session.

I meet you under the shadow of the calamity which has befallen this country and the whole British Empire, in the demise of our beloved sovereign, King Edward VII. His death is mourned, not only by his subjects the world over, but also by all civilized nations who had learned to appreciate the many gifts and qualities which had earned for him the name of Peacemaker, by which he will be known in history.

It is with great pleasure that I congratulate you on the ever-growing prosperity of this favoured land. Trade and Commerce are advancing in all directions with rapid strides. The total volume of imports and exports far exceeds all previous records, and the growth of our industries and internal trade keeps pace with the development of our external commerce.

Whilst in certain of the western Provinces the crops did not realize the sanguine expectations which had been formed in the early spring, yet the total yield was reasonably satisfactory, and the eastern Provinces in this regard have been more than ordinarily blessed. The conditions now existing over the whole country conclusively demonstrate that even with lesser production at some points, the vastness and variety of our resources ensure at all times a high degree of progress for the whole country.

Negotiations for the acquisition from the Admiralty of the two cruisers *Niobe* and *Rainbow* have been carried on with His Majesty's Government, and the two ships have now arrived and are stationed in Canadian waters, in pursuance of the policy adopted last session for the creation of a naval service.

The Hague Tribunal, to which was referred the controversy between Great Britain and the United States, with reference to fisheries in Canadian and Newfoundland waters, has rendered a decision which has been accepted by all parties interested as a fair and equitable adjustment of this long-pending dispute. The result is gratifying, inasmuch as it will tend not only to promote peace and friendship between us and our neighbours, but also to further the practice of settling international questions by means of arbitration.

Marked progress is being made in the construction of the National Transcontinental Railway, and a large quantity of grain is this season finding an outlet from the West to the Great Lakes over this new highway. It is hoped that ere long a satisfactory arrangement can be made for the operation of the finished portions of the line, pending the completion of the road from Moncton to Winnipeg.

The construction of a line of railway to Hudson Bay, which has occupied the attention of the people for many years, has assumed practical shape. Already a contract has been awarded for the construction of a bridge forming part of this railway, across the Saskatchewan river at Pas Mission, and the work is now in progress. During the present session, a measure will be laid before you providing for the prosecution and completion of this work with all possible speed. The connection of the Great West with the Eastern portions of Canada and also with the overseas markets, by this new rail and ocean route, will not only open up a new section of Canada, but will greatly assist in the development of trade, and thus benefit both producers and consumers.

The construction of the bridge across the St. Lawrence river at Quebec, the largest work of its kind ever undertaken, has been receiving the careful attention of my Gov-

ernment, and the utmost care is being observed so that success may be assured. The substructure is now under contract. Tenders for the erection of the superstructure have been received from four responsible companies, and are now being considered.

It is expected that the contract will shortly be awarded and the work pushed forward to completion.

While recognizing the importance of the Canadian home trade and the great value of the market for our staples in the United Kingdom, my Government feel that they should avail themselves of every opportunity to promote friendly commercial relations with the British Colonies and foreign countries, so that our surplus products may be admitted into the markets of those countries on the most favourable terms.

In pursuance of this policy, commercial arrangements, involving reductions of our Customs duties, have been made with Italy and Belgium and a reduced schedule of duties has been granted to the Netherlands.

The desirability of more equitable tariff arrangements between the United States and Canada has long been felt on this side of the border. The commercial policy of the Republic has not hitherto favoured imports from Canada. We have bought largely from the United States, but they have bought much less from us in return. It is gratifying to find that a more liberal policy is now favoured by the neighbouring country, and that the Government at Washington express a desire to establish better trade relations with the Dominion. Following the negotiations which took place some months ago between the President of the United States and my Government, the results of which were at the time communicated to Parliament, a further conference between representatives of the two countries has been held at Ottawa. While no conclusions have been reached, and no formal proposals made, the free discussion of the subject that has taken place encourages my Government to hope that at an early day, without any sacrifice of Canada's interests, an arrangement may be made which will admit many of the products of the Dominion into the United States on satisfactory terms.

A very careful inquiry into the conditions of trade and transportation between the British West Indies and Canada has been held by a Royal Commission appointed by His Late Majesty, including among its members two of my Ministers. The report of the Commission will be laid before you.

In view of the Imperial Conference on Copyright, at which unanimous conclusions were reached in favour of harmonious legislation on this subject throughout the Empire, a Bill to revise and consolidate the law on copyright will be submitted to you.

A measure will be submitted to you in furtherance of the provisions of the treaty recently passed with the United States on the subject of contiguous waters.

Bills will also be introduced respecting banks and banking, terminal elevators at the head of Lake Superior; and with regard to the investigation and betterment of Industrial and Labour conditions and other subjects.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:—

The accounts of the last year will be laid before you.

The estimates for the coming fiscal year will be submitted for your approval at an early date.

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate:

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:—

These important subjects and all matters affecting the public interest I commend to your best consideration and pray that Divine Providence may guide your deliberations.

His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to retire and the House of Commons withdrew.

After some time the Senate was resumed.

The Right Honourable Sir Richard Cartwright presented to the Senate a Bill, intituled: "An Act relating to Railways."

The Bill was read a first time.

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

The same was then read by His Honour the Speaker.

With leave of the Senate,

On motion of the Right Honourable Sir Richard Cartwright, seconded by the Honourable Mr. Dandurand, it was

Ordered, That the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General be taken into consideration by the Senate on Tuesday next.

The Right Honourable Sir Richard Cartwright presented to the Senate,—

The Report of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, 1910.

Ordered, That the same do lie on the Table, and it is as follows:—

(Vide Sessional Papers, No. 21, 1911.)

With leave of the Senate,

On motion of the Right Honourable Sir Richard Cartwright, seconded by the Honourable Mr. Gibson, it was

Ordered, That all the Senators present during this Session be appointed a Committee to consider the Orders and Customs of the Senate and Privileges of Parliament, and that the said Committee have leave to meet in the Senate Chamber, when and as often as they please.

With leave of the Senate,

The Right Honourable Sir Richard Cartwright moved, seconded by the Honourable Mr. Young,

That when the Senate adjourns to-day it do stand adjourned until Tuesday next at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

The question of concurrence being put thereon, the same was resolved in the affirmative, and

Ordered accordingly.

Then, on motion of the Right Honourable Sir Richard Cartwright, seconded by the Honourable Mr. Dandurand,

The Senate adjourned until Tuesday next at Three o'clock in the afternoon.