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THE PRINCE OF WALES AND PREMIER BALDWIN MAY ATTEND CANADA'S DIAMOND JUBILEE

Ottawa, Dec. 10.—The following is text of the speech from the throne:

"Honorable Members of the Senate; Members of the House of Commons:

"I desire on this occasion to assure you of the great satisfaction it affords me to be associated with you in the important tasks upon which you are about to enter at this, the first session of the sixteenth Parliament of Canada, and to avail myself of your assistance and advice in discharging the duties which His Majesty The King, has entrusted to me as his representative.

"Once again we have cause to be thankful for a bountiful harvest, and other assurances of continued prosperity. It is gratifying to note that during the year the foreign trade of Canada has shown further marked improvement and that immigration has substantially increased.

"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.

Supply Needed.

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 fiscal year. It is not proposed to proceed with the ordinary business of the session until the re-assembling 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 re-introduced. 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 substituted.

Maritime Question.

"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 had 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 conditions at the port to the careful examination of an outstanding British authority on tidal and estuarial conditions affecting harbors.

Railway Construction.

"Canadian National branch line construction on the basis of a definite three-year program having proved entirely successful, that method of dealing with necessary railway expansion will be continued, and another three-year program 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 too 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 people of the British Empire.

Minister to U. S.

"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 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 fiscal year 1927-28 will be submitted for your consideration when parliament reassembles.

Honorable 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."

INCREASED SUBSIDY RECOMMENDED FOR THE MARITIME PROVINCES; \$600,000 FOR NEW BRUNSWICK

(Extract from Report of Duncan Royal Commission.)

It follows from what we have said, that both in respect of grants for the machinery of governments and in respect of debt allowances, the Maritime Provinces have satisfied us that they have a genuine claim to a readjustment of the financial arrangements that exist between the Dominion and themselves, and that in any readjustment their territorial limitations entitle them to still further consideration.

The terms of readjustment are obviously a matter for detailed determination and assessment, so that the actual amount—as well as the reasons and purposes attaching to it—can be recognized by the rest of Canada as fair and equitable. It is not possible, therefore, to make a final recommendation as to the increase and form of Dominion aid which is required to satisfy the just claims of the Maritime situation, but we recommend that the Dominion Government should give immediate consideration to the whole of this subject, with a view to a complete revision of the financial arrangements as between them and the Maritime Provinces. We do not feel, however that it would be right or wise that the Maritime Provinces, in their present state of grave necessity, with deficits accumulating against them in their ordinary re-

venue and expenditure, should be left in suspense until a reassessment is made by the Dominion Government, and accordingly we recommend that immediate interim lump-sum increases should be made in the payments to the three Maritime Provinces as follows:—

Nova Scotia\$875,000
New Brunswick 600,000
Prince Edward Island 125,000

These interim payments should be continued until the Dominion Government has had time to complete its investigation and reassessment.

We are strengthened in making this recommendation as to an interim payment by the resolution passed unanimously at the Inter-Provincial conference held at Ottawa in June, 1926, brought to our notice by the Nova Scotia Government as follows:—

"That this conference expresses its sympathy with those provinces which by reason of conditions peculiar to them have not progressed as anticipated and urges upon the Federal Government that it should favourably consider affording relief to each of such provinces in a form that will ameliorate these conditions."

In suggesting the foregoing sums we have fixed what we believe to be the minimum addition that the

three Maritime Provinces should have in any such revision, particularly taking into account past history and the fact that in some respects of their claim there is a retrospective or retroactive feature. They claimed that any revision should provide for a fixed sum in respect of the retroactive element. We are unable to recommend that form of payment but have preferred to take the retrospective feature into account in naming a minimum. We believe it is a sufficient minimum interim payment to ensure that the governments of these provinces will approach any stable settlement of their financial relations with the Dominion not in a spirit of meticulous bargaining but in the broad spirit which arises from a feeling of their being met with sympathy and fairness rather than with narrow compromise. These payments, also, will enable the provinces to undertake the more extensive program in relation to agriculture, colonization, education and other spheres of administration which, they represented to us, they were precluded from undertaking now because of the inadequacy of their assistance from the Dominion Government.

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