

been such that I am very happy he has accepted the additional responsibilities that follow in the wake of his appointment.

In this chamber I wish to announce that the hon. member for Hamilton West (Mrs. Fairclough) was today sworn in as Minister of Citizenship and Immigration. Since her appointment to the cabinet she has had the custody of the Great Seal of Canada, and it is necessary on occasions such as this to advise the house that she returned the Great Seal this morning for safekeeping to His Excellency the Governor General. Shortly thereafter His Excellency was pleased to hand the Great Seal to the hon. member for Labelle (Mr. Courtemanche), who was sworn of the privy council and to the portfolio of Secretary of State.

At this time as well I wish to announce that the portfolio of defence production, the responsibilities of which have been discharged by the house leader since June last, will now have a permanent appointment, and not an acting one, in the person of the hon. member for Lotbiniere (Mr. O'Hurley), who was sworn of the privy council and to the portfolio of Minister of Defence Production.

The hon. gentleman was elected for the first time last June and assumed responsibilities as a parliamentary assistant, and as such we believe, having discharged his duties so well, he merited the advancement he has received.

This, sir, does not complete the entire roster of appointments. There will be another appointment made at a very early date to cover that area in the eastern part of Quebec that is as yet not represented in the cabinet, and I hope in a very short time to be able to announce a further appointment in that connection.

SUPPLY

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, by leave of the house I wish to move, seconded by the Minister of Finance (Mr. Fleming):

That this house will, at its next sitting, resolve itself into a committee to consider of a supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

Motion agreed to.

WAYS AND MEANS

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to move, seconded by the Minister of Finance (Mr. Fleming):

That this house will, at its next sitting, resolve itself into a committee to consider of the ways and means for raising the supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

Motion agreed to.

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The Address—Mr. Lafreniere

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

ADDRESS IN REPLY, MOVED BY MR. ROBERT LAFRENIERE AND SECONDED BY MR. ERIK NIELSEN

The house proceeded to the consideration of the speech delivered by His Excellency the Governor General at the opening of the session.

(Translation):

Mr. Robert Lafreniere (Quebec-Montmorency): Mr. Speaker, following the right hon. Prime Minister's, Mr. Diefenbaker's, kind invitation to propose the address in reply to the speech from the throne read by His Excellency the Governor General a few moments ago, I sought for quite some time to detect what strictly personal qualifications had made me worthy of so redoubtable an honour. I must humbly confess to this house that I failed to discover any.

It was easier for me to consider that this mark of appreciation and esteem was meant for the people of the riding of Quebec-Montmorency who gave to the man now addressing you a victory that will remain historic. In the hope that no one will contradict me on this point, at least until the end of my speech, may I say, Mr. Speaker, that the county of Quebec-Montmorency, with its industrious population of about 125,000, is one of the most densely populated and most beautiful ones in Canada. To those people I express today my kindest and most grateful regards, and the assurance of my fullest devotion to their cause.

Moreover, Mr. Speaker, I note that the seconder of this motion, the representative of the Yukon (Mr. Nielsen) is also a young man. The honour we are sharing today on this memorable occasion is therefore more particularly aimed at our young people who, throughout Canada, most generously gave the right hon. Prime Minister and his government their warm and enthusiastic support. There has never been a public figure in Canada who has inspired our youth with as much confidence in the future of this country, and the results of the last federal election are unprecedented in Canadian history and certainly also in the records of most democratic countries in the world.

At the very beginning of my remarks, may I be allowed, Mr. Speaker, to offer you, on behalf of my colleagues and myself, warmest congratulations on your appointment to this exalted position to which you have been called on account of your deep knowledge and distinguished personality. The qualities you have displayed at the last session, which were appreciated by Canadians in all provinces,