

shall remain for every Canadian of any origin an inspiration of unity and common patriotism.

I am glad to declare that both English and French-speaking Canadians have realized that for the Canadian community the future spells friendship and comprehension between the two great races to which Canada belongs.

Mr. JOHN BRACKEN (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, the speech from the throne which the government prepares and expresses through the voice of His Excellency the Governor General is supposed, among other things, to outline the government's programme for the session. In modern days all too often that programme is cloaked in a haze through which very few of us can see clearly. In any event it gives an opportunity to the house to express its approval or disapproval of the government's programme or of the government itself.

In recent days the practice has grown up of having the address in reply to the speech from the throne moved and seconded by two of the younger members of the house. I wish to compliment the two hon. members who have spoken today. I want to compliment the hon. member for Prince (Mr. MacNaught) upon two things. First, I want to compliment him upon the clear statement he made of the contribution of his province to the development of Canada. Second, I want to compliment him upon the art which he in common with others on that side of the house seems to have developed very rapidly, that is to keep both eyes open when hunting for the weaknesses of the opposition but to put the telescope to the blind eye when it comes to looking upon the countless sins of the government.

I want to compliment the seconder, the hon. member for Richelieu-Vercheres (Mr. Cournoyer). He follows in the footsteps of an able parliamentarian. I did not gather the purport of all he had to say, but I want to commend him for the manner of saying it and also for that portion which I did understand. Whether the hon. member's public life be short or long my best hope for him is that when it comes to an end he will enjoy the same high place in the hearts of his countrymen as was enjoyed by the hon. member who previously represented his constituency.

As the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) said yesterday, and as is the custom in this house, this debate will continue on Monday. Therefore I wish to adjourn the debate.

Motion agreed to and debate adjourned.

On motion of Mr. Mackenzie King the house adjourned at 5.20 p.m.

[Mr. Cournoyer.]

Monday, February 3, 1947

The house met at three o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

REPORT ON INSTALLATION OF MICROPHONES AND AMPLIFIERS

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to lay on the table of the house a report respecting the installation of microphones and amplifiers in the House of Commons.

WILD LIFE

PROVISION FOR JACK MINER NATIONAL WILD LIFE WEEK

Mr. J. R. MacNICOL (Davenport) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 2, respecting the Jack Miner national wild life week.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Explain.

Mr. MacNICOL: Mr. Speaker, with the consent of the house I should like the title as it appears on the order paper changed by changing the word "day" to the word "week"; so that it will read: "An Act respecting the Jack Miner national wild life week."

Since the bill carries a full explanation I will not take up the time of the house to deal with it at the moment.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

DOMINION ELECTIONS ACT

INMATES OF INSTITUTIONS FOR THE POOR

Mr. ROBERT FAIR (Battle River) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 3, to amend the Dominion Elections Act, 1938.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

LABOUR CONDITIONS

PUBLIC BUILDINGS—CHAR SERVICE—WAGES AND WORKING CONDITIONS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. STANLEY KNOWLES (Winnipeg North Centre): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Public Works. Is the minister in a position to make a statement concerning increases in wages, holidays with pay, and sick leave for women cleaners in public buildings? Will these increases apply to women so employed in federal public buildings in all parts of Canada?

Hon. ALPHONSE FOURNIER (Minister of Public Works): I wish to thank the hon. member for sending me notice of the question before the opening of the house today. I believe I shall be in a position in the near future to make a statement concerning sick