

THE SENATE

Thursday, November 1, 1962

The Senate met at 3 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers.

DIVORCE

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Hon. Arthur W. Roebuck, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Divorce, presented the committee's reports Nos. 349 to 378, and moved that they be taken into consideration at the next sitting.

Motion agreed to.

PRIVATE BILL

THE NORTH AMERICAN GENERAL INSURANCE COMPANY—THIRD READING

Hon. A. K. Hugessen moved the third reading of Bill S-6, respecting The North American General Insurance Company.

Motion agreed to and bill read third time and passed.

EXPORT CREDITS INSURANCE ACT

BILL TO AMEND—THIRD READING

Hon. M. Wallace McCutcheon moved the third reading of Bill C-63, to amend the Export Credits Insurance Act.

Motion agreed to and bill read third time and passed.

ROYAL ASSENT

NOTICE

The Hon. the Speaker informed the Senate that he had received the following communication:

GOVERNMENT HOUSE

Ottawa

November 1, 1962

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the Hon. Patrick Kerwin, P.C., Chief Justice of Canada, acting as Deputy to His Excellency the Governor General, will proceed to the Senate Chamber today, the 1st November, at 5.45 p.m., for the purpose of giving royal assent to certain bills.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. G. Cherrier

Assistant Secretary

to the Governor General.

The Honourable

The Speaker of the Senate.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

MOTION FOR ADDRESS IN REPLY—DEBATE
CONTINUED

The Senate resumed from yesterday consideration of His Excellency the Governor General's speech at the opening of the session, and the motion of Hon. Mr. Haig, seconded by Hon. Mr. Fournier (Madawaska-Restigouche), for an address in reply thereto.

Hon. Clement A. O'Leary: Honourable senators, naturally it is with some trepidation and a sense of awe that I rise in my place for the first time in this chamber. The fact that I am junior in years—and perhaps in many other respects as well—has nothing whatsoever to do with my feelings. They are simply an acknowledgment of great men, past and present, who have graced and are presently gracing this chamber. That I am honoured and happy goes without saying, honoured that I should so suddenly find myself in the midst and part of such distinguished company, and happy that I should have been the one chosen to represent that part of Nova Scotia extending from Colchester County to the Strait of Canso.

May I say that it is many, many years since that particular area of the country was so recognized and, consequently, I would be less than grateful were I not to express my thanks and appreciation to the Right Honourable the Prime Minister for his obvious awareness of this fact and the rectifying of a situation about which we were not entirely happy over the intervening years. I know that no honourable senator present will accuse me of partisanship, at least so soon, were I to state that on the last occasion we shared a similar happy experience it happened that a Conservative Government was in power in Ottawa. I am sure that this must be pure coincidence.

Personally, I very humbly accept the great honour conferred upon me and I must at the same time accept the burden of the depth of responsibility attached. My role is by no means an easy one in that I follow in the footsteps of a venerable and respected friend of yours and mine, an exemplary Canadian whose long life was one of deep devotion to church and state, whose ideals must have had their motivation from concepts we recognize as the ultimate in human character. I am, of course, referring to the late Senator Felix Patrick Quinn of Halifax-Bedford. Honourable senators, I simply ask at this time that you accord me the privilege of accepting me as one sincerely attempting to be his worthy successor, hoping in due time to acquire just a few of those attributes which made him