The Clerk at the Table informed the Senate that the Honourable the Speaker was unavoidably absent.

The Right Honourable Senator Dandurand moved, seconded by the Honourable Senator Ballantyne:—

That in the absence of the Honourable the Speaker, the Honourable Senator Murdock do preside as Speaker.

The question of concurrence being put thereon, the Clerk declared the said motion carried in the affirmative.

Whereupon the Honourable Senator Murdock took the Chair.

PRAYERS.

A Message was brought from the House of Commons by their Clerk with a Bill (4), intituled: "An Act to amend the Precious Metals Marking Act," to which they desire the concurrence of the Senate.

The said Bill was read the first time, and-

Ordered, That it be placed on the Orders of the Day for a second reading at the next sitting of the Senate.

The Honourable the Speaker informed the Senate that the following resolution had been passed by the House of Commons:—

Resolved,—That on Tuesday, the 24th February, 1942, the sitting of the House shall be a secret session until the House shall then otherwise order, and that all strangers be ordered to withdraw during such secret session; provided however, that this Order shall not affect the privilege enjoyed by Members of the Senate of being present at debates in this House.

A Message was brought from the House of Commons, by their Clerk, in the following words:—

FRIDAY, 20th February, 1942.

Resolved,—That a Message be sent to the Senate to acquaint their Honours that this House has appointed the Honourable the Speaker and Messrs. Adamson, Aylesworth, Black (Chateauguay-Huntingdon), Bruce, Cardiff, Casselman (Grenville-Dundas), Castleden, Emmerson, Eudes, Farquhar, Fontaine, Fournier (Maisonneuve-Rosemont), Gershaw, Goulet, Graham, Green, Henderson, Howden, Hurtubise, Jaques, Jean, Lizotte, Macdonald (Halifax), MacKenzie (Neepawa), MacKenzie (Lambton-Kent), Macmillan, Marier, Martin, Mayhew, Moore, Poirier, Pouliot, Purdy, Raymond, Reid, Rickard, Ross (St. Paul's), Shaw, Telford, Thauvette, Warren, Winkler, Wood and Woodsworth, a Committee to assist His Honour the Speaker in the direction of the Library of Parliament, so far as the interests of the House are concerned, and to act on behalf of the House of Commons as members of a Joint Committee of both Houses on the Library.

Ordered,—That the Clerk of the House do carry the said Message to the Senate.

Attest.

ARTHUR BEAUCHESNE,

Clerk of the Commons.

Ordered, That the same do lie on the Table.