

servative; and he represents it very appropriately, because, though brought up in the East, he has imbibed to a large extent the atmosphere of the West, and we have in him a fair medium of representation of public opinion in the whole of Canada.

Hon. W. B. WILLOUGHBY: Honourable gentlemen, I did not anticipate the remarks made by my honourable friend to the right (Hon. Mr. Poirier); still less had I occasion to anticipate the remarks of the honourable leader of the Government. It is very satisfying to myself, however undeserved, that he should be so generous towards me to-night, and I hope that our relations in the future will be just as pleasant as they have been in the past.

I, too, recognize that this is not the House of Commons; yet, not only do we sit on opposite sides, but by habit, which of course we acquired before we came into this House, we do more or less incline to parties. I do not profess to be neutral in this respect, but I do profess to be somewhat progressive in thought. I have never been a reactionary—whether that fact is due to the atmosphere of the West or not I do not know—but none the less I stand for safe and stable government, not for foolish experiments in the field of visionary legislation, which perhaps have been attempted at times by more than one Government in response to popular clamour. I think both sides of this House should always resist that.

It is a pleasure to me, and a very great honour indeed, and wholly undeserved, that my friends on this side of the House should have selected me as their leader when in the field there were more distinguished competitors—if I might so describe them, although we are all friends. I shall try to merit the confidence that they have kindly reposed in me, if not by any display of marked ability, which I do not claim, at least by assiduity and attention to the duties of this House.

COMMITTEE ON DIVORCE

MOTION

Hon. Mr. WILLOUGHBY moved:

That Rule 78 of the Rules of the Senate be amended by striking out paragraph 9, and substituting the following in place thereof:

"9. The Committee on Divorce, composed of not less than nine nor more than fifteen senators."

The object of this motion is to increase the number of senators on the Committee on Divorce to fifteen. This, I hope, will somewhat lighten the burden of those who

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND.

are good enough to serve on the Committee this Session, and will during periods when the House is not in session, make available the services of a number of honourable gentlemen living near Ottawa who are willing to serve on the Committee.

The motion was agreed to.

DIVORCE BILL (ONTARIO)

FIRST READING

Bill A, an Act to provide in the Province of Ontario for the dissolution and annulment of marriage.—Hon. Mr. Willoughby.

HIS MAJESTY THE KING

JOINT ADDRESS

A Message was received from the House of Commons informing the Senate that the Commons had passed an Address to His Most Excellent Majesty the King expressing the thankfulness and rejoicing of the people of Canada on the promise of complete recovery of His Majesty, and requesting Their Honours to unite with the House of Commons in the said Address.

Hon. RAOUL DANDURAND moved:

That the Senate doth agree with the House of Commons in the said Address and do fill in the blank space therein with the words "Senate and."

He said: Honourable gentlemen, the resolution was presented to the House of Commons without previous notice, and was passed by that House. I hope the sentiment that actuated the House of Commons will actuate this Chamber in permitting the Address to be considered now.

It reads:

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty:
Most Gracious Sovereign:

We, Your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Canada, in Parliament assembled, humbly beg leave to approach Your Majesty with the expression of our thankfulness and rejoicing that, under the providence of God, there has been vouchsafed to Your Majesty the promise of complete recovery from the severe and protracted illness which Your Majesty has borne with so great patience and fortitude. We have watched the course of Your Majesty's illness with anxious solicitude and with profound sympathy for Your Majesty, Her Majesty the Queen, and for all the members of the Royal Family. It is with sentiments of the deepest sincerity and loyalty that, as representatives of the Canadian people, we join our prayers to those from all parts of the British Empire for the early restoration of Your Majesty to the fullness of health and strength.

The Speech from the Throne has rightly expressed the thoughts and innermost feelings of the Canadian people towards His