

That a select committee be appointed to consider the possibility of enlarging the galleries of the Senate as was suggested at the last Session of Parliament.

That the Committee be composed of the Honourable the Speaker and the Honourable Messieurs Beaubien, Belcourt, Hardy, Macdonell, McDougald, McMeans and White (Inkerman).

Hon. Mr. BELCOURT: As Chairman of the committee of last year, I might explain that the committee presented a report. Honourable gentlemen will remember that I read it yesterday. It was on the Order Paper for concurrence, but unfortunately prorogation took place before it was reached. That is why no notice was taken of the matter by either the Public Works Department or the Cabinet. Hence the necessity for renominating the same or another committee to deal with the matter.

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SPEECH ADDRESS IN REPLY

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. Little for an Address in reply thereto.

Hon. G. D. ROBERTSON: Honourable gentlemen, may I at once join in extending a welcome to the honourable gentlemen who have recently become associated with the Senate, and may I particularly congratulate the two of them who participated in the proceedings of the first day by moving and seconding the Address. Their work and records have been commented upon by previous speakers, and I shall therefore pass on.

I intend to be very brief in any reference to Imperial or international relations. I will, as my honourable friend the junior member from Ottawa (Right Hon. Sir George E. Foster) suggested yesterday, absolve the Government so far as it is possible to do so, and speak very frankly my views with reference to subjects on which we are not in accord with the action they have taken. It would be perhaps unwise to go to the length suggested by my right honourable friend from Ottawa yesterday, of pouring the anointing oil on too thickly, because the weather is cold and most members of the Government are rather bald-headed.

The honourable gentleman who moved the Address stated in his opening remarks that too much could not be said with regard to the Diamond Jubilee which was held last year. May I in passing make a few comments thereon? I think it was entirely fitting, it was

worthy of Canada and of Canada's past, and inspiring for the future, that the achievements both in peace and in war should be brought to the attention of the people as forcibly as they were by the Diamond Jubilee celebration. I think very great credit is due to the right honourable gentleman, the ex-Minister of Railways (Right Hon. Mr. Graham), who acted as Chairman of the Jubilee Committee. The arrangements were splendid, and the spirit that prevailed throughout the celebration and the impression it made upon the people were entirely in the direction of developing a national sentiment and national pride. It was perfectly right that our people should lift up their hearts in thanksgiving and their heads in pride because of the progress and achievements of Canada since 1867.

I think, also, that the Government could scarcely help celebrating in 1927 when they remembered the Gethsemane through which they passed in 1926 and the cross they had to carry for weeks and months during the long investigation, and how when they were approaching their Calvary they committed harikari. To find themselves redeemed and ransomed by the people of Canada, as they were, must surely have been an occasion for great rejoicing, and in their hearts and minds they must have entered with enthusiasm upon the great project of 1927. It reminded me a little of the hymn that I used to hear when I was a boy and scarcely able to see over the back of the seat in church. They used to sing:

The year of Jubilee has come,
Return, ye ransomed sinners, home.

Right Hon. Sir GEORGE E. FOSTER: Temporarily ransomed.

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON: To continue for a moment on the subject of the Jubilee, mention can always fittingly be made of the gracious visit of the heir to the Throne and of the Prime Minister of Great Britain. I think that their presence in Canada, their touring the country and meeting many of the people in every section—and a strenuous trip indeed it was—has been appreciated highly by the people of Canada and should have the effect of bringing us closer in understanding and sympathy to the Mother Country.

It is obvious that it had such an effect even upon people in high places. I remember in particular the enthusiasm with which some members of the Government entered into that celebration. It is well known how at least one of them travelled a thousand miles in advance of the royal party in order to have the people of his own town gather at the railway station and have the Prince presented with a bouquet of flowers at 7.15 in the