

conclusion was always able to shake hands with the person with whom he had been debating.

● (1420)

It is rather unfortunate that he never had an opportunity to be part of the government that was active in formulating policies in Alberta. He was always a member of the opposition. Had he had an opportunity of being a leader in Alberta, in my opinion he would have done a great job.

I too would like to express my sympathy to his family. I knew Harper as a friend, and western Canada certainly is better off that he lived.

THE SENATE

SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION—QUESTION ANSWERED

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, yesterday the Honourable Senator Croll rose to ask the following question:

Honourable senators, may I ask why the simultaneous interpretation facilities are not available today?

When openings of Parliament are formal openings, simultaneous interpretation is not possible because the desks of honourable senators are removed to make way for benches in order to accommodate the guests who sit in this chamber. In the event of informal openings, such as the one held yesterday, I am trying to find out whether or not simultaneous interpretation was provided in the past and, if not, for what reason. However, after consultation with officers of the Senate and with the media, I am now able to advise honourable senators that simultaneous interpretation will be provided at all future openings when senators' desks are in place.

THE SENATE

On the presentation of petitions:

Senator Perrault: Honourable senators, there are no petitions to present. However, may I state that I look forward to working together with all honourable senators in another very active and productive session.

It is the intention of the government to advance useful legislation which, I am sure, will invite debate on occasion—will not provide too much debate, perhaps, but a certain amount of spirited discussion.

It is good to see so many colleagues here this afternoon, some of whom encountered health disabilities in recent months and are once again restored to good health and spirits. I know that all honourable senators join me in welcoming them back in our midst.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

TERMINATION OF DEBATE ON ADDRESS IN REPLY ON EIGHTH SITTING DAY

Senator Langlois: Honourable senators, with leave of the Senate and notwithstanding rule 45(1)(i) I move, seconded by Senator Perrault:

That the proceedings on the order of the day for resuming the debate on the motion for an Address in reply to His Excellency the Governor General's Speech from the Throne addressed to both Houses of Parliament be concluded on the eighth sitting day on which the order is debated.

Motion agreed to.

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

EQUALIZATION GRANTS—QUESTION

Senator Smith (Colchester): Honourable senators, I should like to direct the following question to the Leader of the Government: What arrangement did the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources have in mind when he said, as reported in the press, that there was an arrangement whereby Nova Scotia would receive an additional \$10 million in equalization grants this year related to assistance because of the higher cost of fuel oil.

What is that arrangement? By what amount will assistance be granted under this arrangement, and when will it be received?

Senator Perrault: Honourable senators, having regard to the technical nature of the question, I shall take this as a notice and endeavour to provide a complete reply at the earliest possible date.

Senator Smith (Colchester): Perhaps I might add by way of reference, in the hope that it may be of some assistance, that a report relating to this matter appeared in the *Globe and Mail* on October 5.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

ERROR IN FRENCH TEXT

Senator Langlois: Honourable senators, before the Orders of the Day are called, I would like to draw the attention of this chamber to an error in the French version of the *Minutes of the Proceedings* made available to us this day.

At page ii of the Orders of the Day for today, the English version reads as follows:

Consideration of His Excellency the Governor General's Speech from the Throne at the opening of the Second Session of the Thirtieth Parliament of Canada.

In the French version at the same page, under the heading "Ordre du jour," the translation reads as follows:

[Text]

Étude du discours de Son Excellence l'Administrateur du Gouvernement du Canada lors de l'ouverture de la deuxième session de la trentième Législature du Canada.

[English]

The error is quite evident, and I hope it will be corrected in due course.

Senator Flynn: It was probably copied from the proceedings at the beginning of the last session.