

3 o'clock, p.m.

The sitting was resumed.

PRAYERS.

Mr. Speaker communicated to the House the following letter which he had received:—

GOVERNMENT HOUSE  
OTTAWA

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

13th September, 1949.

SIR,—I have the honour to inform you that His Excellency the Governor General will arrive at the main entrance of the Houses of Parliament at 3.00 p.m. on Thursday, September 15, and when it has been signified that all is in readiness, will proceed to the Senate Chamber to open formally the First Session of the Twenty-first Parliament of Canada.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,

Your obedient servant,  
H. F. G. LETSON,  
Major General.

*Secretary to the Governor General.*

The Honourable

The Speaker of the House of Commons,  
Ottawa.

A Message was delivered by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod:—

Mr. Speaker,

His Excellency the Governor General desires the immediate attendance of this Honourable House in the Chamber of the Honourable the Senate.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, with the House, went up to the Senate Chamber, and then Mr. Speaker spoke to the following effect:—

May it please Your Excellency:

The House of Commons have elected me their Speaker, though I am but little able to fulfill the important duties thus assigned to me.

If, in the performance of those duties, I should at any time fall into error, I pray that the fault may be imputed to me, and not to the Commons, whose servant I am, and who, through me, the better to enable them to discharge their duty to their King and Country, humbly claim all their undoubted rights and privileges, especially that they may have freedom of speech in their debates, access to Your Excellency's person at all seasonable times, and that their proceedings may receive from Your Excellency the most favourable consideration.