

as may be referred to them from time to time, and that the Committee on Standing Orders be authorized to send for persons, papers and records whenever required; and also that the Committee on Internal Economy and Contingent Accounts have power, without special reference by the Senate, to consider any matter affecting the internal economy of the Senate, as to which the Honourable the Speaker is not called upon to act by the Civil Service Act, and such Committee shall report the result of such consideration to the Senate for action.

The motion was agreed to.

## SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

### ADDRESS IN REPLY

The Senate resumed from Thursday, September 13, the consideration of His Excellency the Governor General's Speech at the opening of the session, and the motion of Honourable Mr. Robinson for an Address in reply thereto.

Hon. A. K. HUGESSEN: Honourable senators, in resuming the debate on the gracious Speech of His Excellency, there is one preliminary duty incumbent upon me, the very pleasant duty indeed of offering my most respectful congratulations to you, sir, upon the very distinguished position which you now occupy as the head of this Chamber. May I say, sir, that it gave me a great deal of pleasure to sit behind you during the three years that you were the leader on this side of the House, and I am sure it will give all of us equally great pleasure to sit beneath you as you conduct the proceedings of this assembly.

There is a tradition, and a very pleasant one, always followed in debates on the Address, and that is for every participant to say a few words in appreciation of the speeches by the mover and the seconder of the Address in Reply. It gives me the very greatest pleasure to conform to that ancient and happy tradition and to congratulate the honourable senator from Summerside, Prince Edward Island (Hon. Mr. Robinson) and the honourable senator from Rigaud (Hon. Mr. Dupuis), who respectively moved and seconded the Address. I think, honourable senators, we all agree that they acquitted themselves very well of a difficult and, perhaps to a new member, a rather nervous task. We look to both of them to contribute to our debates and to make valuable contributions to our knowledge. I did not have the privilege of personal acquaintance with the honourable senator from Prince Edward Island before he came to this Chamber, though I had heard of the excellent work he had done in the Canadian Legion war services for our overseas boys while in London. But the honourable senator from Rigaud I

can claim, I hope, to know quite well. We have together fought more than one political battle on the platform, and he and I are colleagues at the Bar of Montreal. Will he allow me to extend to him a warm and cordial welcome as a member of this Chamber?

There is one other feature of our proceedings at the commencement of this particular session to which I should refer—the fact that we have a new leader on each side of the House. Will they allow me to express to them my warmest congratulations? May I say how happy I am to serve on this side of the House under the banner of the honourable senator from Shelburne (Hon. Mr. Robertson), and how glad I am to see as leader on the other side, not as an opponent but as a frank and friendly critic, the honourable senator from Winnipeg (Hon. Mr. Haig), who for many years has taken so prominent a part in the debates of this Chamber. I am quite sure that under their joint management the business of the country will be carried on in this House with dignity and dispatch.

Our honourable leaders at the opening of the session treated each other with the greatest of courtesy and consideration, as I am sure they will continue to do throughout the sessions of this House. But perhaps they will allow me, without offence, to make one suggestion to them? When contentious matters arise let us sometimes have from both of them the flash of fire and thunder of artillery. It would be a pity if the atmosphere of this Chamber were to be too continuously that of a Sunday-school. Sunday-schools are very good things in themselves. But enough is perhaps too much of a good thing.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: May I ask the honourable gentleman whether he is an authority on Sunday-schools?

Hon. Mr. HUGESSEN: Perhaps I am as much an authority on Sunday-schools as is my honourable friend.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: Maybe more so.

Hon. Mr. HUGESSEN: Now and again when contentious matters come under discussion let us have the smell of powder so that we may sharpen our wits and enliven our debates.

Hon. Mr. LEGER: Would the honourable gentleman have made that suggestion some seven or eight years ago?

Hon. Mr. HUGESSEN: My honourable friend's question indicates to me the wisdom of my having made the suggestion now.