

Mr. **BOURINOT**. I declare Mr. Ouimet duly chosen to occupy the Chair of this Honorable House as its Speaker.

Mr. **OUMIET** was conducted from his place to the Chair by Sir John A. Macdonald and Sir Hector Langevin.

Mr. **SPEAKER ELECT**, standing on the upper step, said: I beg leave to tender to this House my sincere thanks for the high honor it has conferred upon me in electing me to be its Speaker. It will be my earnest endeavor to deserve the confidence you have reposed in me, and to discharge the important duties that devolve upon me with firmness and impartiality. I know how ill-fitted I am for the position compared with others, but I trust in the co-operation of honorable gentlemen on both sides in maintaining our rules and usages, and in preserving the dignity and freedom of debate, according to well-established custom.

And the **Mace**, which before lay under the Table, was laid upon the Table.

Sir **JOHN A. MACDONALD** moved the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to; and the House adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THURSDAY, 14th April, 1887.

The **SPEAKER ELECT** having taken the Chair,

**PRAYERS.**

A Message was delivered by René Edouard Kimber Esquire, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod:—

Mr. **SPEAKER**,—

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

Accordingly the House went up to the Senate Chamber

Then the **HONORABLE JOSEPH ALDERIC OUMIET**, **SPEAKER ELECT**, said:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:—

The House of Commons have elected me as their Speaker, though I am but little able to fulfil 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 Queen 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 reasonable times, and that their proceedings may receive from Your Excellency the most favorable consideration.

The Honorable the **SPEAKER** of the Senate then said:

Mr. **SPEAKER**,—

I am commanded by His Excellency the Governor General to declare to you that he freely confides in the duty and attachment of the House of Commons to Her Majesty's Person and Government, and not doubting that their proceedings will be conducted with wisdom, temper and prudence, he grants, and upon all occasions will recognize and allow, their constitutional privileges.

I am commanded also to assure you, that the Commons shall have ready access to His Excellency upon all reasonable occasions, and that their proceedings, as well as your words and actions, will constantly receive from him the most favorable construction.

Then His Excellency the **GOVERNOR GENERAL** was pleased to open Parliament by a Speech from the Throne.

And the House being returned,

Mr. **SPEAKER** said: I have the honor to state that the House having attended on His Excellency the Governor General in the Senate Chamber, I informed His Excellency that the choice of Speaker had fallen on me, and, in your names and on your behalf, I made the usual claim for your

privileges, which His Excellency was pleased to confirm to you.

## CONTROVERTED ELECTIONS.

Mr. **SPEAKER** laid before the House, Judgment bearing date the eighth day of June, 1886, of the Hon. Mr. Justice Angers, one of the Judges selected for the trial of Election Petitions, pursuant to the Dominion Controverted Elections Act, 1874, in the matter of the election petition for the Electoral District of Beauce, by which judgment the said petition was dismissed.

## ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS OF OFFICE.

Sir **JOHN A. MACDONALD** introduced Bill (No. 1) respecting the Administration of Oaths of Office.

Bill read the first time.

## SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

Mr. **SPEAKER**. I have the honor to inform this House, that when the House attended His Excellency the Governor General this day in the Senate Chamber, His Excellency was pleased to make a Speech to both Houses of Parliament, and, to prevent mistakes, I have obtained a copy of the Speech, which is as follows:—

*Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate:*

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons:*

It is my pleasing duty on the opening of a new Parliament to congratulate you on the general prosperity of the country and on the prospect of a coming season of peace and progress.

You will, I am sure, gladly join in with the rest of the loyal subjects of the Queen in offering Her Majesty your sincere congratulations on her having reached the fiftieth anniversary of her accession to the Throne, and in giving expression to an earnest hope that she may be long spared to reign over her vast dominions.

The prominent position taken by Canada at the Colonial and Indian Exhibition, recently held in London, has made the Dominion more widely and favorably known than before, and will, I have no doubt, contribute largely to its material progress by calling attention to the advantages offered by our country to the agriculturist, and by attracting the capital necessary for the development of its great natural resources.

Negotiations between Her Majesty's Government and that of the United States on the Fishery Question, with respect to which my Government has been fully informed and consulted, are still in progress, and will, we may be permitted to hope, result in an arrangement honorable and satisfactory to both nations.

Meanwhile the necessary provision has been made for the protection of our inshore fisheries. The papers on this subject will be laid before you.

Your attention will be invited to the expediency of establishing a Department of Trade and Commerce, under the supervision of a responsible Minister.

You will also be asked to consider the propriety of making such improvement in the organization of the Departments of Justice, Customs, and Inland Revenue, as will provide greater facilities for the despatch of the large and increasing volume of business with which those Departments are charged.

A measure will be submitted to you giving representation in the Senate to the North-West Territories in addition to that which they now possess in the House of Commons.

Other measures will be laid before you, and among them will be found Bills for the amendment of the Acts relating to Government Railways, for providing a better mode of Trial of Claims against the Crown, for the improvement of the Procedure in Criminal Cases, and for the further amendment of the Chinese Immigration Act.