

You come to us, sir, directly from the House of Commons, where during this Parliament you have served as Deputy Speaker. You have had a long and interesting career in the other House, with whose rules and procedure you are thoroughly familiar, and we are glad to see you now presiding over our deliberations.

You will find that our rules and procedure are somewhat different from those of the House of Commons. As a body we are fairly liberal in their interpretation; indeed, sometimes we even transgress them. I would suggest that before applying the whip, or disciplinary measures, you should at least absorb a little of the atmosphere of this Chamber. I assure you that in discharging the duties of your high office you will receive the loyal support and full co-operation of all your colleagues.

Hon. C. C. BALLANTYNE: Honourable members, I am sure that I am speaking for every honourable senator on this side of the House when I join with the honourable Leader and those on the other side in offering to Your Honour our very warmest congratulations. You are especially qualified to be the Speaker of the Senate of Canada: you are an experienced parliamentarian, a brilliant lawyer and a cultured gentleman, and you have a thorough mastery of both official languages. I wish Your Honour good health.

There is one thing of which you can be perfectly sure, and that is that you will have the united and loyal support of all honourable senators in the discharge of your duties. Knowing you as I do, I am confident that those duties will be carried out efficiently and always in a fair and dignified manner.

DIVORCE STATISTICS, 1942

Hon. A. B. COPP: Honourable senators, it is customary at the close of each session for the Committee on Divorce to make its final report to this Chamber in regard to the work carried on by the committee during the session. In the absence of the Chairman of the Committee, and on his behalf, I have the honour to present the following report:

For the present session 107 notices of intention to apply to Parliament for bills of divorce were given in the Canada Gazette. Of the foregoing, 92 petitions were actually presented in the Senate and dealt with by the Committee on Divorce as follows:

Unopposed cases heard and recommended	71
Opposed cases heard and recommended	5
Opposed cases heard and rejected	2
Applications not proceeded with	14

92

Of the petitions recommended, 18 were by husbands and 58 by wives.

Of the applications recommended, 74 were from residents of the province of Quebec, and two from the province of Prince Edward Island. An analysis of the occupations followed by the applicants is as follows: accountant, assistant foreman, bank clerk, barrister, carpenter, chauffeurs, clerks, clothing operator, domestic servant, draughtsman, druggist, factory employee, fur cutter, hairdresser, handbag examiner, hospital employee, linotype operator, manufacturers, married women, merchant, nurse, oil refinery operator, operator, painter, patent attorney, photograph finisher, railway employee, rooming-house keeper, salesmen, saleswoman, secretary, stenographers, stock-keepers, tailor, teacher, waitress.

The committee held twenty-four meetings.

In 43 cases the Committee on Divorce recommended that part of the parliamentary fees be remitted.

The comparison of the number of divorces and annulments of marriage granted by the Parliament of Canada in the last ten years is as follows:

1932-33	24
1934	38
1935	30
1936	40
1937	46
1938	85
1939	50
1940	62
1940-41	49
1942	73

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

The Honourable Thibaudeau Rinfret, the Deputy of the Governor General, having come and being seated at the foot of the Throne, and the House of Commons being come with their Speaker, the Honourable the Deputy of the Governor General was pleased to close the Third Session of the Nineteenth Parliament of the Dominion of Canada with the following speech:

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

The present session opened under the shadow of the rapid successes of Japanese aggression in the Far East. Germany and Italy, in making war upon the United States, had completed the circle of world-wide conflict. With German advances in North Africa and Russia, and Japanese advances in China and toward India and Australia, the shadows lengthened. In the late summer, the midnight hour seemed to have arrived.

The British successes in North Africa in October, followed by the landing of a United States and British expeditionary force in November, completely changed the course of the war in that area. These successes, combined with the determined resistance of China, the unparalleled achievements of the armed forces of Russia, and the United States and Australian gains in the south-west Pacific, have materially improved the position of the Allied powers. Opposing forces are at last more evenly matched. The United Nations are beginning to wage offensive warfare.