

our efforts have been entirely successful. The Honourable Senators Connolly (Ottawa West) and Dessureault took a great interest in procuring lighting equipment suitable to the Senate. Unfortunately, some of the officials did not entirely approve of the equipment which was suggested for installation. Our lighting has been improved somewhat, but I am sure honourable senators feel that there can be further improvement in it.

Honourable senators, two other questions were left, not for the subcommittee but, I think, for senators generally—two questions which have been raised in the Senate. One of these, raised by the honourable senator from De la Durantaye, has to do with the paintings hanging on the walls. Some honourable senators feel that the paintings are quite appropriate; others feel that there should be a change. Some think we should have Canadian murals on the walls. Well, honourable senators, the making of that change would present a difficult problem. Those walls have been prepared in such a way that they assist favourably the acoustical properties of this chamber, and we would need to have expert advice as to what effect the change would have on the acoustics. That is something for honourable members to consider in the future.

The question of an additional gallery was also mentioned. It was said during the royal visit that it would have been much more satisfactory if it had been possible for many more Canadians to be in the Senate chamber on that occasion. But more people could have been seated here only if we had had an additional gallery. Well, an additional gallery would involve a structural change which would be very costly, and one which would have to be undertaken, I am sure, by the Government, as the appropriations of the Senate itself do not provide sufficient funds to make so extensive an improvement.

Honourable senators, that is the report of your committee. We feel that we did look after the task that was given to us, and, generally speaking, I think the Senate chamber is a much more attractive place today than it was several years ago.

Hon. Senators: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: Now, honourable senators, while I am speaking about this chamber on the opening day I want to refer to one official of the chamber who had a very important part to play. I have in mind the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod. It was his responsibility to arrange the seating in this chamber and to send out the invitations. What a task he had! There were thousands of applications for seats. Many people asked me if I could arrange for their accommodation in this chamber and invariably I referred them to the Black Rod; and some of them

later showed me the letter they received from him, saying, as politely as any one could say it, that it was impossible to arrange places for them. I never heard a complaint from a single applicant after the receipt of that courteous reply from the Black Rod. And I am sure that at the opening of Parliament we were all pleased by the way in which he performed his very important function as the personal messenger of Her Majesty from this chamber to the other chamber. No one could fail to observe the fine impression he created by his gracious manner and his stately bearing.

Hon. Senators: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: Honourable senators, I would also like to refer to another official of the Senate. I have in my hand an excellent booklet, entitled *How Parliament Works*. A number of prominent, well-informed members of all the parties represented in this Parliament have spoken to me about this booklet and that is why I mention it. In every instance they say it is the best publication of its kind in Canada. It was written by E. Russell Hopkins, Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel of the Senate. I take pride in the fact that it was prepared by one of our officials, and I heartily recommend it to all honourable senators. I feel certain that when you read it you will be pleased with it and will want to obtain a number of copies to send to your friends.

Honourable senators, I have spoken of the opening of Parliament on October 14, and I would like to refer briefly to another event which took place prior to that date. I mean the General Election of June 10. Many changes have resulted from what took place on that day. One, which is very noticeable, is that those of us who formerly were sitting on the right of the Speaker are now sitting on his left, and those who are sitting on his right were previously on his left. Probably that is the most notable change which has taken place since we last met.

I want to take this opportunity of saying that, if there had to be a change in the person who was to occupy the position of Leader of the Government in the Senate, no more appropriate appointment could have been made than that of the present Leader of the Government in this chamber (Hon. Mr. Haig).

Hon. Senators: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: He is a man of wide experience in business, learned in the laws of our land, and with a broad knowledge of legislative affairs. For sixteen years before he came to Ottawa he was a member of the Manitoba Legislature, and he has been in the Senate twenty-two years. While in opposition he was a good Leader of the Opposition,