

THE SENATE

Tuesday, October 3, 1995

The Senate met at 2:00 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers.

NEW SENATORS

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, I have the honour to inform the Senate that the Clerk has received certificates from the Registrar General of Canada showing that the following persons, respectively, have been summoned to the Senate:

William H. Rompkey

Doris M. Anderson

Lorna Milne

Marie-P. Poulin

INTRODUCTION

The Hon. the Speaker having informed the Senate that there were senators without, waiting to be introduced:

The following honourable senators were introduced; presented Her Majesty's writ of summons; took the oath prescribed by law, which was administered by the Clerk; and were seated:

Hon. William H. Rompkey of Labrador, Newfoundland, introduced between Hon. Joyce Fairbairn, P.C., and Hon. B. Alasdair Graham.

Hon. Doris M. Anderson, of St. Peter's, Kings County, P.E.I., introduced between Hon. Joyce Fairbairn, P.C., and Hon. M. Lorne Bonnell.

Hon. Lorna Milne of Brampton, Ontario, introduced between Hon. Joyce Fairbairn, P.C., and Hon. Keith Davey.

Hon. Marie-P. Poulin of Sudbury, Ontario, introduced between Hon. Joyce Fairbairn, P.C., and Hon. Leo Kolber.

The Hon. the Speaker informed the Senate that the honourable senators named above had made and subscribed the declaration of qualification required by the Constitution Act, 1867, in the presence of the Clerk of the Senate, the Commissioner appointed to receive and witness the said declaration.

• (1415)

Hon. Joyce Fairbairn (Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, I am proud today to introduce the four newest members of our chamber. It is with great pleasure that I

welcome a familiar friend and much respected parliamentary veteran, Senator Bill Rompkey.

Colleagues may not know, but until his senatorial appointment, Bill Rompkey was the longest serving member of the House of Commons from Atlantic Canada. He has represented the people of Labrador since his first election there in 1972. Since that time, he has served as Minister of National Revenue, Minister of State for Small Business and Tourism, and as Minister of State for Mines. The interests of the constituents of his province have always been central to his political career. I know that he is particularly proud of his accomplishments in improving transportation facilities for the people of Labrador.

Recently, we recall his excellent work as the Chair of the House of Commons Standing Committee on National Defence and Veterans Affairs. Members of this house cooperated with him during the deliberations of the Special Joint Committee on Canada's Defence Policy, which he chaired.

Prior to Senator Rompkey's entrance into public life, he completed both Bachelor and Masters degrees in English, and post-graduate diplomas in education. He served as a school principal and the first Superintendent of Education in Labrador East.

I am particularly grateful, Senator Rompkey, for the support you have given to the issue of literacy in your province of Newfoundland. We have very high expectations of you, and this house has much to gain from your experience and your goodwill. We know that your devotion to the people of Labrador and Newfoundland will continue to be reflected in your new responsibilities.

From Prince Edward Island, we are joined by Senator Doris Anderson, a noted nutritionist who brings with her a lifetime contribution to education and mental health in her province. Senator Anderson graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree from Acadia University and a Master of Science degree from Cornell University. She has had an extensive career as a home economics professor at Prince of Wales College from 1948 to 1969, and at the University of Prince Edward Island from 1969 to 1980.

Widely published in the field of nutrition, Senator Anderson has trained generations of workers and teachers and, in particular, has focused on helping children with celiac disease. She was also appointed to the Order of Canada in 1982. Clearly, honourable senators, we can learn much from her experience. I know that she will represent her fellow islanders with great skill and pride, and with the compassion which has guided her throughout her career.

Senator Lorna Milne from Brampton, Ontario, has public service in her blood. Her father was Mayor of the great city of Toronto, Mayor Dennison, and her husband, Ross Milne, was a member of Parliament for Peel-Dufferin-Simcoe from 1974 to 1979.