

## Second Distinct Sitting Opening First Session of New Parliament

The Speaker's procession, led by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, enters the chamber. The Speaker takes the chair, and reads prayers. The Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod now leaves the chamber to join the procession of His Excellency the Governor General. The Clerk of the Senate takes his seat at the right of the special seat which the Speaker will later occupy to the right of the throne. The Clerk Assistant takes his seat to the right of the Clerk.

The Speaker rises and says:

Is it your pleasure, Honourable Senators, that the Senate do now adjourn during pleasure to await the arrival of His Excellency the Governor General?

The Speaker leaves the chair and takes his special seat at the right of the throne.

The Speaker's chair in front of the throne is removed.

As the procession of His Excellency the Governor General enters the ante-chamber of the Senate, the Assistant Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod calls "Order", and everyone rises.

His Excellency ascends the steps to the throne, and says, in English and in French, "Pray, be seated". His Excellency remains seated throughout the ceremony and does not rise until the Commons have left the Senate chamber.

The Speaker of the Senate then says in English and in French:

Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod,—

You will proceed to the House of Commons and acquaint that House that it is the pleasure of His Excellency the Governor General of Canada that they attend him immediately in the Senate chamber.

The Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod leaves to deliver the message to the Commons, and, the members of the House of Commons having arrived before the bar of the Senate, the new Speaker of the Commons says in English and in French:

May it please Your Excellency:

The House of Commons has elected me 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 the 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 favourable construction.

The Speaker of the Senate then addresses the Speaker of the House of Commons in English and French as follows:

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 occasion 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 their proceedings, as well as your words and actions, will constantly receive from him the most favourable construction.