

Election of Speaker

but he is the servant of no one man;—therefore he must maintain impartiality and fairness as between one member and another from the front bench to the back bench, subject to human frailties.

I might conclude by referring to a speech made on the occasion of the election of a Speaker by the House of Representatives of one of our sister countries of the commonwealth. As we know, one of the most difficult questions to decide is the matter of parliamentary and unparliamentary language and the retraction of certain remarks. Unfortunately in some parliaments the language is more frank or, perhaps, more brutal than it is in this house, and the occasions for expulsion are much more numerous. On this particular occasion it was said of the nominee for the position that he was extremely well qualified to decide on the nature of parliamentary and non-parliamentary language, as well as on the expulsion of members, since he had himself been expelled three or four times.

While Mr. Lamoureux has not had that experience and, happily, this House conducts itself on a more restrained plane, I think he will readily understand the point I am trying to make. He has gained experience as Deputy Speaker under the tutelage of Mr. Speaker Macnaughton—and one must not, of course, forget the wise counsel of the Clerk of the House and of the staff—and I am sure we can look forward to a very fruitful session under the—I hope—steady hand of the Speaker nominee.

[Translation]

Mr. Maurice Allard (Sherbrooke): Mr. Raymond, I have just consulted my independent colleague, the hon. member for Trois-Rivières (Mr. Mongrain) and, even though we have both been seated close to the main exit, we have agreed to sit a long time in the house. To this end we rely on the qualities enumerated by the President of the Privy Council (Mr. Favreau) with regard to the Speakership, that is fair-mindedness and objectivity.

We are therefore delighted to state even at this early date that we trust the sense of fairness, impartiality and objectivity of the new Speaker. We pay our respects to him and extend our best wishes for his success and good health. Good luck.

[English]

The Clerk of the House declared the motion carried in the affirmative, *nemine contradicente*, and Lucien Lamoureux Esquire, member for the electoral district of Stormont, duly elected to the chair of the house.

Mr. Lamoureux was conducted from his seat in the house to the Speaker's chair by Right Hon. L. B. Pearson and Hon. Guy Favreau.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker: Hon. members of the house, from the bottom of my heart and in all modesty, I wish to thank you for the honour you have just bestowed upon me by electing me Speaker of the House.

It is with the best of feelings toward each one of you that I assume this heavy task. I can assure you right now that I shall discharge the responsibilities you have given me to the best of my ability. Among other duties, it is up to the Speaker to see that the standing orders and the rights and privileges of the hon. members and of Parliament are respected.

The degree of success I shall be able to achieve in carrying out that function will depend largely on the co-operation and assistance that the members shall give to the Speaker of the House. Trusting that such co-operation shall be given to me generously, I accept, in all modesty and gratitude, to act as Speaker of this house.

I pray Divine Providence to give me the courage, the strength and the wisdom I shall need to justify the confidence you are putting in me at this time.

[English]

Hon. Members of the House of Commons, I beg to return my humble acknowledgements for the great honour you have been pleased to confer upon me at this time as your Speaker.

I am grateful to the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Pearson) for the gracious words in which he proposed my nomination, and, of course, to the right hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Diefenbaker) for the generous way in which he endorsed the nomination. I am equally grateful to the hon. member for Burnaby-Coquitlam (Mr. Douglas), to the hon. member for Red Deer (Mr. Thompson), to my colleague the hon. member for Villeneuve (Mr. Caouette),

[Translation]

...and also, naturally, to the President of the Privy Council (Mr. Favreau), who was kind enough to second the motion of the right. hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Pearson) and who did so in such a charming way.