

arrival has been reached, the Senate is adjourned during pleasure to await his arrival, and the Speaker takes his seat at the right of the Throne.

After the Deputy of His Excellency the Governor General arrives, the Speaker commands the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod to proceed to the House of Commons and acquaint the members of that House that it is the desire of the Deputy of His Excellency the Governor General that they attend him immediately in the Senate Chamber.

After the members of the House of Commons have arrived, the Deputy's commission, if not already upon the *Journals of the Senate*, is read by the Clerk Assistant. The Speaker then says that His Excellency the Governor General does not see fit to declare the causes of his summoning the present Parliament of Canada until a Speaker of the House of Commons has been chosen according to law.

The members of the House of Commons then return to their Chamber to elect a Speaker. The Deputy of His Excellency the Governor General retires, and the sitting of the Senate is resumed.

The Speaker then informs the Senate of the time at which the Governor General will formally open the First Session of the new Parliament. The Senate then adjourns until a designated time.

Opening of First Session

The Speaker's procession, led by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, enters the Chamber. The Speaker takes the Chair.

The Senate then adjourns during pleasure to await the arrival of His Excellency the Governor General. After the arrival of His Excellency, the Speaker of the Senate commands the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod to proceed to the House of Commons and acquaint the members of that House that it is the pleasure of His Excellency that they attend him immediately in the Senate Chamber.

After the members of the House of Commons have arrived at the Bar of the Senate, the 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 their 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