

S.O. 21

Newfoundland back in the 1960s. Throughout the 1970s, Mr. Jamieson was instrumental in helping me sign on as a Parliamentary Press Gallery correspondent for CJON-TV in St. John's.

It was during these years that I learned of his phenomenal photographic memory, his ability to glance at a wire story and sit down in front of a camera and go for a half hour without a script, commercials and all. The fact is, according to his wife, Barbara Jamieson, with that particular art, he would never forget to pick up the laundry on the way home.

If anything endeared Don Jamieson to his host of friends from all political Parties, it was his wonderful sense of humour, as the Right Hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Turner) pointed out. My favourite story—at least one that can be repeated here—was told to me by Senator Finlay MacDonald, a long-time broadcaster and friend of Don Jamieson. Hon. Members will recall that the referendum which brought Newfoundland into confederation was extraordinarily close. Shortly after that historic day, Senator MacDonald asked Don Jamieson how those who opposed confederation felt afterward and whether they were bitter. "Well, Finlay, it's like this", said Mr. Jamieson. "I have a half interest in a racehorse in Corner Brook. You could never get him out of the starting-gate unless you put a bottle of screech in his feedbag". "So what happened?" asked Fin MacDonald. "Well, he never won a race but he was the happiest loser you ever saw".

● (1430)

Don Jamieson was very much a winner to broadcasters. He was inducted into the Canadian Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame in Vancouver early this month. Don Jamieson once said: "I think I'm the first Newfoundlander in public life who is a total Canadian". He will be sorely missed, Mr. Speaker, by Canada's broadcasters and by Canadians.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Pat Nowlan (Annapolis Valley—Hants): Mr. Speaker, it may surprise some Hon. Members that I want to add a few words to what has already been said. I am not going to repeat what has been said but there is a part which has been missed. The Hon. Member who just spoke came close when he talked about Mr. Jamieson's photographic memory. I was in the House and heard the maiden speech mentioned by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Turner). He is right. The House of Commons is the people's court. I do not speak in any representative capacity as Leader of the House, nor do I have a former association with broadcasting, but I was a brand new Member sitting almost behind the seat of the former Hon. Member for Humber—Port au Port—St. Barbe who with his own rhetoric emulated his boss. I sat there by the curtain and heard his maiden speech. It was not what he said, although that was tremendous, but it was how he said it.

As the Minister of Transport (Mr. Crosbie) said today, Don Jamieson personified the essence and spirit of this place. On May 9, 1967 he rose in his place to make his maiden speech

and without a note, without a piece of paper, his eloquence was heard. I will never forget that speech. My friend, the Hon. Member for South Shore (Mr. Crouse) was here but he was sitting a little closer to Mr. Diefenbaker. He was always a little closer to him than I sometimes was. My leader of the day, the Right Hon. John George Diefenbaker wrote a note, again in the spirit of Parliament, and that note may be in the book which is being written. I hope it is. It has been said they differed strenuously on the floor of the House, but it was never with malice. John George Diefenbaker wrote a note saying it was the greatest Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne that the late Hon. Member for Prince Albert had ever heard.

Those of us who were privileged to know Don Jamieson are the poorer for his loss. Newfoundland is the better because of him. Let us hope that, in his memory, we will make this place a little more the way he would have liked it.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[Translation]

Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Saint-Denis): Mr. Speaker, I would like to say a few words because I had the privilege of serving as Parliamentary Secretary to the Hon. Don Jamieson. Speaking on my own behalf and on behalf of all Quebecers, I would like to join in expressing to his wife Barbara and his children our great sense of loss. Thanks to Don Jamieson, many of us learned to know and love Newfoundland and the people who live there. Those who, like myself, had an opportunity to travel with him to various parts of the world when he was Secretary of State for External Affairs, learned to know and love people and to understand the basic principle of how to communicate with people, even with those whose opinions we often do not share. I therefore wish to join my colleagues in extending to his family our heartfelt sympathy, and especially to his wife Barbara, who I had the honour of meeting, and his children.

[English]

Mr. Speaker: Before proceeding, I would ask all Hon. Members to stand with me for one minute of silence.

[Whereupon the House stood in silence for one minute.]

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S.O. 21

[English]

INDUSTRY

MITEL CORPORATION—CONSEQUENCES OF SALE TO BRITISH TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Len Hopkins (Renfrew—Nipissing—Pembroke): Mr. Speaker, the Government took great pride in the fact that it arranged the sale of the Mitel Corporation to British Telecommunications less than nine months ago and gave great assurances with regard to the benefits of such a sale to all