House of Commons

The house resumed at 8.57 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

EXPRESSION OF GOOD WISHES FOR FUTURE TO MR. SPEAKER

Mr. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, in accordance with the traditions of a free parliament, as this parliament now ebbs to a close I wish to convey to you, sir, on behalf of those who sit to your left, the very best of good wishes for your future.

You have occupied a high and honourable position as Speaker of this parliament; a position that carries with it tremendous responsibilities under the maintenance of a free parliament in the British tradition. I say to you, sir, on behalf of those of this party, Her Majesty's loyal opposition, that with the conclusion of this parliament—as it may be expected that the next parliament will have another Speaker since we have not followed the British tradition of having a permanent Speaker in the House of Commons—may I in the most cordial and sincere manner convey to you our very best good wishes.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my leader, the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggar (Mr. Coldwell), and those associated with me in the C.C.F., I am happy to join in the greetings expressed by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Diefenbaker).

I imagine it would be noted as lacking in sincerity if I tried to gloss over the fact that we have had our differences during the course of this parliament, but this is not the time to say anything about those differences. It has been a pleasure for us to be members of this twenty-second parliament, presided over by one who has been interested in and a keen student of parliament and its procedures. You, sir, have been a friend to all of us in this House of Commons; you and Mrs. Beaudoin have been a gracious host and hostess and we are most happy to extend to you and to Mrs. Beaudoin our greetings at this time.

Mr. Victor Quelch (Acadia): Mr. Speaker, we in this group would also like to join in the timely expressions of good will by the former two speakers and we also wish you and your wife every joy in the future.

Hon. W. E. Harris (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, if I were to speak now for the party to your right and, partially, for those to your left I could only say that over the [Mr. Speaker.]

past four years we have been happy in the choice that was made of Speaker after the 1953 election.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Harris: You have discharged your duties in a manner which has commended itself to a great many people although, of course, as has been said already, there have been differences of opinion. I think this is inevitable in any deliberative body because indeed persons go there for the purpose of disagreeing in order to bring about a proper result.

I do want to join with the representatives of the other parties in saying that the office of Speaker is not only that of the first commoner, it is representative of all that is best in our traditions and is something more than merely a presiding officer. It is an office of dignity and honour and one which comes to relatively few in the history of parliament. When it does come there is a mark on the man thenceforth for having been chosen for his integrity, his honesty and his impartiality, which will distinguish him for the rest of his days. Therefore, sir, I join on behalf of this party with all others in thanking you for your services during the past four years and in extending to you and to Mrs. Beaudoin our very best wishes.

THE ROYAL ASSENT

A message was delivered by Major C. R. Lamoureux, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, as follows:

Mr. Speaker, the Honourable the Deputy Governor General desires the immediate attendance of this honourable house in the chamber of the honourable the Senate.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker with the house went up to the Senate chamber.

In the Senate chamber, the Deputy Governor General was pleased to give, in Her Majesty's name, the royal assent to the following bills:

An act for the relief of Joseph Adelard Gerard Leclaire.

An act for the relief of Jeanne D'Arc Ouellette Martin.

An act for the relief of Mary Boldovitch Mogil, otherwise known as Mary Boldovitch Mogilesky. An act for the relief of Doris Irwin Phillips.

An act for the relief of Doris Irwin Phillips.
An act for the relief of Kathleen O'Malley Romandini.

An act for the relief of Lillian Yochalas Ostroff. An act for the relief of Gladys Catherine Mc-Cluskey MacFarlane.

An act for the relief of Mary Kathleen Pineault Miller.

An act for the relief of Terez Lazar Jankovicz. An act for the relief of Winona Beryl Buzan Maynard.

An act for the relief of Rose Marie Hops Zinman. An act for the relief of Doris Velma Gardner Briggs.

An act for the relief of Pinck Kempinski. An act for the relief of Margaret Lukis Lambert.