

THE SENATE

Tuesday, March 30, 1993

The Senate met at 2 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers.

NEW SENATOR

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, I have the honour to inform the Senate that the Clerk has received a certificate from the Registrar General of Canada showing that Ronald D. Ghitter, Q.C. has been summoned to the Senate.

INTRODUCTION

The Hon. the Speaker having informed the Senate that there was a senator without, waiting to be introduced:

The following honourable senator was introduced; presented Her Majesty's writ of summons; took the oath prescribed by law, which was administered by the Clerk; and was seated:

Hon. Ronald D. Ghitter, Q.C., of Calgary, Alberta, introduced between Honourable Lowell Murray and Honourable John Lynch-Staunton.

The Hon. the Speaker informed the Senate that the honourable senator named above had made and subscribed the declaration of qualification required by the Constitution Act, 1867, in the presence of the Clerk of the Senate, the Commissioner appointed to receive and witness the said declaration.

Hon. Lowell Murray (Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, the Honourable Ronald Ghitter comes to us with eight years of parliamentary experience, having been elected twice to the legislature of Alberta where he served from 1971 to 1979.

A lawyer, Senator Ghitter has distinguished himself in public service, notably in the area of human rights. In 1985, he was the recipient of the Canadian Human Relations Award from the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews. In 1990, he served as Chair of the Mayor of Calgary's Task Force on Community and Family Violence and, in the same year, was awarded the Alberta Human Rights Award by the Alberta Human Rights Commission.

Senator Ghitter has served as a member of the federal Advisory Committee on Violence Against Women and is presently a Director of the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development.

When Senator Ghitter looks around this chamber, he will recognize senators on both sides with whom he has been

associated in many of these worthy causes. They and we are delighted to have him as a colleague, and we look forward to working with him.

I simply want to reassure Senator Ghitter that, while he has taken his seat in the corner immediately to the left of Your Honour and is rather lonely in that corner for the moment, he will soon have plenty of company.

Hon. Senators: Hear, hear!

Hon. Royce Frith (Leader of the Opposition): Honourable senators, I can neither add to nor take exception to anything Senator Murray has said about our new senator, but I wish to say that I had, for just a moment, hoped that, unlike the usual behaviour of this government, things would actually be as they seemed to be and Senator Ghitter would indeed sit on our side and join our caucus. But, as Senator Murray has said, as usual with this government, what seems to be just never is.

Senator Murray: Appearances can be deceiving.

Senator Frith: But in the event of a change of mind, my number is 995-1984.

SENATORS' STATEMENTS

THE SENATE

SERGEANT FRANK FORAN—TRIBUTES ON RETIREMENT

Hon. John Lynch-Staunton (Deputy Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, just a short while ago, many of his colleagues and associates and members of this house gathered together to mark the retirement of Sergeant Frank Foran of the Senate Protective Service. An event of this nature is not normally considered a matter for discussion in this house, but in this case an exception can be made as, today, the Senate is being asked to recognize an exceptional career.

As a matter of fact, the Foran family and the Parliament of Canada have been linked together for some 80 years. Indeed, Frank's father, William, joined the Protective Service in 1913 and was its head when he retired in 1959.

Frank became a Senate page in 1950 at the age of 13. He became chief page in 1954, a messenger in 1957, a constable in 1964 and was named sergeant in 1967.