Retirement of Opposition Leader

son, I think we must recognize that the Hon. Guy Favreau was a great Canadian and that both his family and the Canadian parliament have suffered a great loss.

[English]

Mr. A. B. Patterson (Fraser Valley): Mr. Speaker, I should like very briefly to say that we also share in the sorrow that has been expressed over the passing of a man who I believe was one of the most congenial and friendly individuals in the House of Commons. We also join in the expressions of sympathy to his family.

[Translation]

Mr. André Ouellet (Papineau): Mr. Speaker, this house will appreciate how much I wish to endorse the words spoken by the Prime Minister and members of opposition parties in their eulogy of the man I had the very great privilege of serving for almost three years and whom I replaced as member for Papineau.

Hon. Guy Favreau entered politics at a difficult period in the history of his country. Need I recall that bombs were exploding in Quebec at the time? But Mr. Favreau firmly believed in Canadian unity; he served his country and his fellow citizens with conviction and courage. Unfortunately, his devotion to duty exceeded his physical strength.

It is fitting that this house, which was not always gentle with him, pay today to that great Canadian the last tribute he well deserved.

[English]

PRIVILEGE

MR. OLSON—ANNOUNCEMENT OF CHANGE IN PARTY AFFILIATION

Mr. H. A. Olson (Medicine Hat): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. I should like to inform you, sir, that due to a number of actions and subsequent developments since the last sitting of this house I have resigned from this group in the house. Further I wish to advise you that I have made application to join, and have been accepted by, that group in this house who support the government.

I should also like to thank you, Mr. Speaker, for all the courtesies you have shown to me in the past, and I hope you will be able to see me from time to time on the other side of the house.

[Mr. Caouette.]

THE MINISTRY

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CHANGES DURING RECESS

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I should like to inform the house of certain changes in the ministry since the house recessed on July 7.

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill has submitted his resignation as Minister of Transport and has taken up new duties in the public service as president of the Canadian Transport Commission.

Hon. Paul Hellyer has been appointed Minister of Transport. Hon. Léo Cadieux, the former associate minister of national defence, has been appointed to succeed Mr. Hellyer as Minister of National Defence. Hon. Allan MacEachen, the house leader on this side, has been assigned ministerial responsibilities for the Atlantic Development Board.

I have recommended to His Excellency that Mr. Charles Granger, who resigned today as minister of Labrador affairs in the Newfoundland government, be appointed at this time as a member of the administration without portfolio.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

REFERENCES TO RETIREMENT OF OPPOSITION LEADER AND CABINET CHANGES

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, perhaps I might be permitted to call attention to the fact that there is one vacancy in the house today, though only a temporary one, that is very much in our minds. The place occupied in the House of Commons by the Leader of the Opposition is for the moment unfilled, as the right hon. member for Prince Albert has relinquished that post and his successor has not yet entered parliament.

I do not propose, Mr. Speaker, to say much about the right hon. gentleman who sat directly opposite me for some years, because he remains a member of this house and will be back with us shortly to exercise that influence on our debates and proceedings which has made him for so many years a powerful and dynamic parliamentary personality. If I said more, Mr. Speaker, it might sound too much like a valedictory, and that impression I certainly do not wish to create.

It will I confess, Mr. Speaker, be passing strange for me, and indeed for all of us, not to see the right hon. gentleman rise first on orders of the day and with transfixing gaze

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