

nobody in Canada more competent to cope with that problem. I refer to the honourable gentleman from Welland (Hon. Mr. Robertson). The honourable member has already been Minister of Labour, and the very important position which he has occupied, and still occupies, in his own railway union, has brought him into contact with labour and unemployment problems in Canada and the United States. I do not for a moment want to disparage the efficiency of other Ministers of Labour, but nobody else who has come to the office has had such a training as the honourable gentleman in the matters involved, or such an opportunity to study them, and I shall be disappointed if the policies of the Government in this respect, and the explanations given by the honourable gentleman, are not satisfactory, to reasonable people at all events. In connection with the work of the House the leadership will rest with me as representing the Government in this House and representing the House to the Government. In this position I shall have to take a share of the responsibility even for the declarations of my honourable friend on behalf of the Government, for while he will be accountable to it, I shall be accountable to this House; and in that respect I will not shirk my responsibility.

If there is nothing further to come before the House, I would move the adjournment of the debate until to-morrow.

The motion was agreed to.

The Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 3 p.m.

## THE SENATE

Wednesday, September 10, 1930.

The Senate met at 3 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

### THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SPEECH

#### ADDRESS IN REPLY

The Senate resumed from yesterday consideration of His Excellency the Governor General's Speech at the opening of the session, and the motion of Hon. Mr. Bérard for an Address in reply thereto.

Hon. W. B. WILLOUGHBY: Honourable senators, I adjourned the debate yesterday merely for the purpose of keeping it alive,

as I knew that some honourable members intended to speak. I have nothing further to add.

Hon. J. P. B. CASGRAIN: Honorables sénateurs,—

Je viens suivant l'usage antique et solennel Vanter le beau discours, au Sénat éternel, Du savant proposeur de la petite adresse. Du secondeur anglais, je loue aussi l'adresse.

Honourable senators, it did not take me long to pay my compliments, in French poetry, such as it is, to the proposer and the seconder of the Address. The honourable member for St. Boniface (Hon. Mr. Bérard) said that he was the first French Canadian to move the Address in his native tongue in this Chamber in forty years. Well, his own honourable leader (Hon. Mr. Willoughby) corrected him and pointed out that I had beaten him by the small margin of thirty years. The honourable member for New Westminster (Hon. Mr. Taylor), who seconded the Address, is an old parliamentarian and journalist, and words flow just as easily from his mouth as from his pen. He said that fifty-two years ago he was a messenger boy in the Press Gallery of the House of Commons and was paid at the magnificent rate of 25 cents a day. I have him beaten on two grounds: in the first place, fifty-four years ago I was a French translator in the House of Commons, and, secondly, instead of being paid only 25 cents a day I received \$5 a day, and that was "some" money at that time.

May I pay my respects to our new Speaker? He has had a long parliamentary career. He was first elected as a member of the House of Commons in 1908, for the county of Champlain, where he lived at that time. I may say that I have known him for more than thirty years. He was a notary public in Grand'Mère and I was one of his clients. I know that he was a very good notary public.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN: In 1908, in the palmy days of the benign reign of our dear Sir Wilfrid Laurier, it was not easy for a Conservative to be elected in Quebec. There must have been some peculiar charm about our new Speaker, for he managed to carry that county, which had been Liberal for a good while. In 1911 he was easily elected. On that occasion the Conservatives from the Province of Quebec, or those who sided after