

latter should return he can resume his place on the committee. Senator Jones, takes the place of the late Sir Frank Smith. On the Committee on Private Bills, Mr. Shehyn, of Quebec, takes the place of Senator Bolduc, by arrangement; Mr. Young, takes the place of Mr. Loughheed, and Mr. McHugh takes the place of Senator Ogilvie, resigned; Senator Gillmor takes the place of Senator Prowse. On the Committee on Internal Economy and Contingent Accounts, there were two vacancies besides the Speaker's vacancy: Mr. Bolduc takes the place of Mr. Forget, who is likely to be absent for a good part of the session, and Mr. Loughheed takes the place of the late Mr. McKindsey. On the Committee on Debates and Reporting, Mr. Landry takes the place of Mr. Bolduc, and Mr. Ellis takes the place of Sir Mackenzie Bowell, who desired to withdraw and give Mr. Ellis an opportunity of serving on that committee. There is no change in the Committee on Divorce. The only change on the Restaurant Committee is the substitution of Senator Miller for Senator MacKeen, and Sir Alphonse Pelletier takes the place of Senator Almon until his return. Those are the changes. It is a very delicate task for the committee because it is well known, as I have explained, that there is a considerable desire on the part of hon. gentlemen to be appointed to certain committees. It is not an easy matter to allot the list so as to please everybody—it is quite impossible to please all.

The report was allowed to stand.

The Senate adjourned.

THE SENATE.

Ottawa, Thursday, February 14, 1901.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Eleven o'clock, a.m.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

THE STANDING COMMITTEES.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT moved that the following senators be appointed to the Joint Committee on the Library of Parliament:—

The Hon. the Speaker, and the Hon. Messrs. Allan, Almon, Baker, Boucherville, de, C.M.G., Casgrain (de Lanaudière), Drummond, Gowan,

Hon. Mr. SCOTT.

C.M.G., Hingston, Sir W., Kt., Masson, Miller, Pelletier, Sir Alphonse, K.C.M.G., Poirier, Ross, Scott, Wood (Westmoreland), Young.—17.

Hon. Mr. DeBOUCHERVILLE—Is not this committee appointed to assist the Speaker? I do not think the Speaker is named on the committee himself.

The SPEAKER—I am really not prepared to answer the question of my hon. friend from Montarville. As I understand it, the Speaker of this House is simply the member who occupies the Chair, and he would not be a member of the committee unless he was specially mentioned. Our rules do not say that the Speaker shall be ex-officio a member of any committee. Consequently, as at present advised, my opinion is that the Committee of Selection acted properly in including the Speaker among the members of the committee.

Hon. Mr. DeBOUCHERVILLE—Does His Honour decide that I am not correct?

The SPEAKER—I have not looked into the question, and am not prepared to give a positive decision. I simply give the impression on my mind at the moment.

Hon. Mr. DeBOUCHERVILLE—Could not this question stand until the other committees are named, and I will look into it in the meantime. There can be no objection to that.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—The only rule applying to this is the 80th, where it says:—

The standing committees shall be as follows: (1) The Joint Committee on the Library of Parliament, whereto there shall be appointed seventeen senators.

It has been the practice heretofore, in appointing the committee, on all occasions, to include the Speaker.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—We are following the practice. The Speaker is put at the head of the list.

Hon. Mr. MILLS—The committee have always been appointed to assist Mr. Speaker, and the Speakers alternate—the Speaker of the House of Commons is chairman of the Joint Committee at one time, and at another it is the Speaker of the Senate, but I do not recollect the rule by which that proceeding has been heretofore adopted.

Hon. Mr. DeBOUCHERVILLE—Why not let the matter stand?