

THE SENATE

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

MOTION FOR ADDRESS IN REPLY—  
DEBATE CONTINUED

Wednesday, January 28, 1959

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

Prayers.

DOCUMENTS TABLED

**Hon. Mr. Aseltine:** Honourable senators, I table the following documents:

Report of proceedings under the Trans-Canada Highway Act, for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1958, pursuant to section 9 of the said act, Chapter 269, R.S. 1952. (English text).

Report of the Fisheries Research Board of Canada, for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1958, pursuant to section 15 of the Fisheries Research Board Act, Chapter 121, R.S. 1952. (English and French texts).

NATIONAL GALLERY

PURCHASES—NOTICE OF INQUIRY

**Hon. Jean-François Pouliot:** Honourable senators, this is January 28, 1959, and to commemorate the answers given a year ago today by the then Leader of the Government (Hon. Mr. Haig) about the National Gallery, I have these questions to ask:

1. What was the accession number, the medium, the artist, the title, the date of acquisition, the source, and the cost (in Canadian dollars) of each one of the works of art purchased by the National Gallery of Canada, from accession No. 6911 of September 18, 1957 to date?

2. What commissions have been paid for the purchase of each one of the works of art bought by the National Gallery of Canada from accession No. 6327 of May 18, 1955, (pages 529-539 of the Senate *Hansard* of January 28, 1958) to be completed to date, and to whom in each case?

DIVORCE

ADDITION TO COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**Hon. George S. White,** with leave of the Senate, moved:

That the name of the Honourable Senator Bradley be added to the list of senators serving on the Standing Committee on Divorce.

Motion agreed to.

INQUIRIES

On the Order, Inquiries Nos. 1 and 2:

**Hon. Mr. Aseltine:** I might mention, for the information of the honourable senators by whom these inquiries have been made, that we try every day to hurry the answers along, but some of them take considerable time. I would ask that the inquiries stand.

**The Hon. the Speaker:** The inquiries stand.

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. Pearson, seconded by Hon. Mr. Choquette, for an Address in reply thereto.

**Hon. Wishart McL. Robertson:** Honourable senators, I would like at once, as Mr. King used to say, to echo the sentiments of the distinguished senators who expressed so eloquently their appreciation of the efforts of the honourable senators who moved and seconded the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, and who welcomed to our midst the three gentlemen who have joined us this session. Anything I could add to the aptness of their phraseology in these respects would be a mere gilding of the lily.

Probably, of the trio who were introduced, the most fortunate is the honourable senator from Newfoundland in that, like his associates from Newfoundland and his colleagues from New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, he has the exceptional good fortune to come from an area adjacent to the province of Nova Scotia. It may be that some of these gentlemen are not so appreciative of this honour as they should be, but I am always hoping for a change of mind in that respect. Let it not be supposed that I am seeking to discourage any honourable senator who is not so fortunately situated as the honourable senator from Newfoundland. In the years that lie ahead they will have to labour under this disadvantage and seek by good works to overcome it.

I want to congratulate the honourable Leader of the Government (Hon. Mr. Aseltine) and the honourable Leader of the Opposition (Hon. Mr. Macdonald) on their speeches. I shall not attempt to go into the details of what they said. I am sure the performance of the Leader of the Opposition met with commendation on this side of the house, as I am sure the remarks of the honourable Leader of the Government did on the other side of the house and, indeed, on both sides.

I am not sure that I am as optimistic about economic conditions as the honourable Leader of the Government was, but I realize, as he admitted himself, that he was dealing with increases rather than decreases. That is perhaps accountable for the particular frame of mind he was in. In passing may I, as one who has had some little experience in the responsibilities of the office he now holds, say that I think he has done a good