

a commotion in the Upper Chamber when the debate was resumed. There was an unusually large attendance of strangers and members of the House of Commons when the Speaker took his seat. Then Sir Alexander Campbell rose and replied to the Senator from Woodstock in such vigorous style that even his thick cuticle was pierced. There was open and undisguised satisfaction as Senator Alexander squirmed under the flaying. The rebuke was sharp and effective, and for two years the Senator from Woodstock was a silent member of the Senate. When he did eventually address the House again it was in such mild and inoffensive terms that everyone pronounced the cure as radical as the remedy had been drastic.

One other incident in connection with the Senator from Woodstock is worth mentioning. All who visit the Parliament Building are attracted by the portraits of the Speakers, which hang in the corridors. Every Speaker during his term has his portrait painted, and it is added to the long row of portraits in the corridors. Sir David Macpherson, instead of following the custom of the House and providing the conventional portrait showing the head and shoulders, supplied at his own expense a full-length portrait of himself in his robes of office. He was a very large and well-proportioned man, as anyone can see if he will stand before the life-size portrait of his stately figure in the front corridor of the Senate. Mr. Alexander seized upon this departure from the custom of the Senate as an opportunity to worry his enemy. He rose to a question of privilege and called attention to the innovation, charging the former Speaker with having been influenced by vanity and a desire to make himself unduly conspicuous. He wound up by demanding that the portrait be cut in two and only one-half of it retained. It didn't matter which half, he said, but if his own judgment would be accepted, he would prefer the lower half, because the por-

trait showed well-developed calves, and he thought on the whole they were the best part of Sir David's make-up. Newspapers hostile to the Senate took up the question, and the fame of the portrait was spread abroad, with the result that you could always find a knot of curious visitors gazing upon it when the Senate was open to tourists. Mr. Alexander retired from the Senate soon after the incident, and Sir David Macpherson did not long survive him, but even to this day the famous canvas is an object of interest to sight-seers who remember the hot time it created in the Senate long years ago.

Another Senator who at times broke through the customs and traditions of the Red Chamber was the Honourable T. R. McInnes, afterwards appointed Governor of British Columbia. I can recall two incidents in which he was the central figure. He was one of those who regard the dual language as an expensive nuisance. On one occasion he claimed that Gaelic was a language, to say the least, as vigorous and expressive as French and with as many claims to be considered an official language as either French or English. To emphasise his views and put them on record, he moved that Gaelic be made an official language in Canada. To give some idea of its musical and expressive character, he addressed the House in the language of the Highlanders. Did we try to report that speech? As well try to report the fusillade of a package of fire-crackers. The Senators looked on amused, while the reporters sat there helplessly listening to the unintelligible stream of oratory. Then Mr. McInnes addressed the House in English. The feelings of his French colleagues can be more readily imagined than described, as he wound up with the declaration that, as Britain had generously granted the use of their language to the conquered race, at least the same right should be conceded to their conquerors. The writ-