

owing to other reasons, such as sickness, absenteeism, and, I must add, to a very small degree owing to resignations. But, to the credit of the Senate, to the credit of its stability, very few resignations are handed in. During the fourteen years that I have been here I can recall only three senators who resigned their seats in this honourable House. There was one from the province of Quebec, but he did not retire into oblivion; he resigned to take a judgeship. Another retired to take the Lieutenant Governorship of his native province of Nova Scotia. The third was from New Brunswick, and he resigned, not to retire from public life, but to occupy the high and honourable position of Lieutenant Governor of his province. These are the only three.

Strange to say, but it must go on record, that in all the population of Canada since Confederation there has been found only one man who declined—refused, indeed—to take a seat in this House, although duly appointed by Order in Council, duly signed by the Governor General, who, I think, was Lord Minto.

Vacancies have been caused by death, by illness and by absenteeism, so this is a question that should appeal to the members of this honourable House. We should see that our rights are protected as well as those of the House of Commons. The people of the country will look for fair representation not only in the House of Commons but also in this House. If things go on as they are going, if the war lasts much longer, there will be only a corporal's guard left on this side of the House. It is an ill wind that does not blow some one good, and the Conservative Government is very fortunate owing to the war; the membership of this House is being depleted, and will continue to be depleted to the detriment of the Liberal sentiment and the people of this country. Is that a fair situation in face of the extensions of time that have been granted? If so, then I say, no more extensions, we do not want to be obliterated. If the Government are counting on the duration of the war to wipe out the Liberal party, it is the duty of the Liberal party to deny any further extensions. That is the stand I take, and that is the stand the country will justify. I hope that the production of this correspondence will lead to a discussion of this situation, which I say is not fair, is not just, is not in accord-

ance with the demands and requests of the Prime Minister in the Lower House.

The motion was agreed to.

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SPEECH.

ADDRESS IN REPLY.

The Senate proceeded to the consideration of His Excellency the Governor General's Speech at the opening of the Session.

Hon. JOHN S. McLENNAN rose to move that an Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General to offer the humble thanks of this House to His Excellency for the gracious Speech which he has been pleased to make to both Houses of Parliament. He said:

Honourable gentlemen, it is usual at a time like the present, when there has been a change of the head of the State, to make some reference to that change in speaking to the resolution which I have the honour to lay before you. The thought naturally arises in one's mind, "Le roi est mort, vive le roi"; but, though kings may die, viceroys do not die. Many of Canada's viceroys have passed on to situations of the greatest importance, and have done work for the Empire elsewhere which has added new laurels to those which they had gained in Canada.

The predecessor of the present Governor General, the Duke of Connaught, has gone back to the Old Country to continue there that active interest in all things Canadian, that kindly care for Canadians in England and in the field of battle which endeared him to the people of Canada while he was here and made his tenure of that high office one of the most successful since Confederation.

The present Governor General gives us full cause for the expectation that he will adequately fill the high office to which he has been called. He comes of a very noble house, a house of great achievements. Going back no further than our own time, his grandfather united the rarest qualities. He had an academic career in which he won the highest honours at that university which I am bound to consider in the very forefront of institutions of learning. He endowed that university with equipment for research which made it possible for Cambridge to enlarge the boundaries of scientific knowledge; and for many years he ruled over its affairs as Chancellor. Turning his attention to affairs, he became what is now called a captain