

his door and calling on some other partner,—and it kind of hurts. A fellow came to me last summer and said: "Jack, I know you are my lawyer, but your associates are always here and you are away half the time, and I want to deal with somebody who is on the spot and can look after me". Take the case of a senator who is a physician. I venture to say that he is in exactly the same position. He may be one of the best medical men in his province, but if he is down here for six months, and his people cannot obtain his services, they will go to somebody else. I do not blame them; I would do the same thing.

You may say that we are paid for our services here. That is not the point. The experience each of us has had in every-day life is given to the people of this country at a figure which is very low for the services rendered. If you engage a lawyer or doctor or engineer or any other professional man to do a piece of work, you will find that you have soon paid out as much as the \$6,000 a year that we receive.

For these reasons—the fact that the membership changes to the extent of five or six members each year, the fact that we are assembled here for a certain purpose, the fact that during eighty-four years no issue has ever arisen on which the action of the Senate was declared by the people of this country to be wrong—I believe that the less we say or do about this subject the better the people of Canada will be satisfied.

Some Hon. Senators: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Roebuck: Honourable senators, I move the adjournment of the debate.

The motion was agreed to, and the debate was adjourned.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

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. Stambaugh for an Address in reply thereto.

(Translation):

Hon. Cyrille Vaillancourt: Honourable senators, my first word is for His Honour the Speaker. I am delighted to see him in such good health this week. We are always pleased to feel his kindly eyes following our proceedings and to have him directing them.

After listening to my honourable colleagues who spoke on the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, it is my duty—and a very pleasant one—to congratulate the mover and the seconder on their speeches, and also all those who spoke after them. It is hard to say which speech was the greatest and which

the most powerful. Truly, the elite of the Canadian population should study them.

If my speech does not measure up to theirs, I hope it will at least set off the value of the previous addresses.

In certain quarters at present the reform of the Senate is being mentioned, and means are sought to make our work more efficient. Those who know the work we are performing and the way we are doing it, give us credit for it, I believe. I was told, by a stranger who attended a meeting of our Banking Committee: "Your Committee is probably the best of its kind that I have seen in either Canada or in the United States." These words were spoken by an American citizen, and they constitute quite a tribute.

One of the reasons for the existence of the Senate, according to the Constitution of 1867, was that this non-elective house should protect minorities. The Senate has given this protection in the past and will, I hope, continue to do so. Two races built this country, and it is only through the understanding and good will of both that the necessary unity will be ensured.

I am just back from Europe. As I went through Switzerland—a country to be admired for its scenery, and especially for its national unity, although it is formed of several minority races—a referendum was being held in the Canton of Berne. We know that the majority of the citizens of the Canton of Berne are of German origin. Nevertheless, in the Canton of Berne, it was requested that the French language be put on an equal footing with German, and the immense majority of the citizens of that Canton voted in favour of such a measure. In Switzerland, French, German and Italian cultures flourish side by side, and the diversity lends a particular charm to each canton. Do not tell a French or Italian Swiss that he is German Swiss or a French Swiss. He considers himself to be Italian or German or French, but he will tell you: "I am a Swiss." In his canton people may speak French, Italian or German; but when a Swiss citizen talks about his country he is always a Swiss. And thus in this beautiful country there is a genuine and true harmony. This unity was not created overnight; it is the result of time and patience, and above all a great amount of good will. Why should the same situation not exist in Canada? Indeed, with the co-operation of all men of good will—and there is good will everywhere—it should be possible. God knows that we need it in order to solve the numerous and complex problems which presently face us.

A few days ago, the honourable senator from Cariboo (Hon. Mr. Turgeon), gave a very good outline of the work which Canada is performing at the United Nations.