

Speaker of the House of Commons shall have been chosen, according to law; but this afternoon, at the hour of three o'clock, His Excellency will declare the causes of his calling this Parliament.

The House of Commons withdrew.

The Honourable the Deputy Governor General was pleased to retire.

The sitting of the Senate was resumed.

NEW SENATORS INTRODUCED

The following newly-appointed senators were severally introduced and took their seats:

Hon. John Alexander McDonald, of Halifax, Nova Scotia, introduced by Hon. Wishart McL. Robertson and Hon. Donald MacLennan.

Hon. Alexander Neil McLean, of Saint John, New Brunswick, introduced by Hon. Wishart McL. Robertson and Hon. W. E. Foster.

Hon. Brewer Robinson, of Summerside, Prince Edward Island, introduced by Hon. Wishart McL. Robertson and Hon. J. E. Sinclair.

Hon. Frederick W. Pirie, LL.D., of Grand Falls, New Brunswick, introduced by Hon. Wishart McL. Robertson and Hon. A. B. Copp.

Hon. George Percival Burchill, B.Sc.F., LL.D., of South Nelson, New Brunswick, introduced by Hon. Wishart McL. Robertson and Hon. A. B. Copp.

Hon. Jean Marie Dessureault, of Quebec, Quebec, introduced by Hon. Wishart McL. Robertson and Hon. J. A. Lesage.

Hon. Joseph Raoul Hurtubise, B.A., M.D., C.M., of Sudbury, Ontario, introduced by Hon. Wishart McL. Robertson and Hon. Norman McL. Paterson.

Hon. Gerald Grattan McGeer, K.C., of Vancouver, British Columbia, introduced by Hon. Wishart McL. Robertson and Hon. C. B. Howard.

THE SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

FELICITATIONS ON HIS APPOINTMENT

Hon. WISHART McL. ROBERTSON: May I be permitted, sir, to extend to you the heartiest congratulations of your colleagues on your appointment to the eminent position of Speaker of the Senate?

Your long experience in public life, during which you have been for fifteen years a member of this Chamber, the last three years as its leader, together with your wide knowledge of

The Hon. the SPEAKER.

the rules, will, I am confident, enable you to discharge the duties of your high office in full accord with its great traditions. To your long experience is added a natural courtesy and kindness that is appreciated by all; by none more than the junior members—a fact to which I personally can bear witness.

I assure you, sir, that in the discharge of your duties you will have the loyal support and the fullest co-operation of your colleagues.

Hon. JOHN T. HAIG: I am delighted, Mr. Speaker, to have the honour of congratulating you on your elevation to the high office of Speaker of this Chamber. Your experience, gained as a member of the legislature of British Columbia and of the provincial government, as a representative from that province in the House of Commons and later in the Cabinet, and finally as leader of this House for some three years, fully qualifies you to discharge the duties of your present important office with credit to not only yourself but every member of the Senate. I take second place to no one in welcoming you to the Chair. I am confident that you will ably maintain the high record established by the distinguished gentlemen who have from time to time presided over the proceedings of this honourable body.

To the members just introduced, may I be permitted to extend my welcome? I am not what might be called a veteran of this Chamber, though I have been here for quite a while, and in welcoming them I would ask them to forget the political arena. We all owe so very much to Canada that we can well afford to forget our past political struggles and direct all our efforts to the advancement of our country. The Senate is a very important branch of Parliament, and as such is clothed with heavy responsibilities. If I misread not the times, there are trying years ahead of us before the world settles down to more or less normal conditions, and the members of this Chamber, with their great abilities and wide experience, are in a position to give sound leadership to the Government and to the people.

If I may digress for a moment, I notice that each new member on taking the oath has been given a copy of Holy Writ. This was not the practice when I became a member. Possibly the new appointees have greater need of the Bible than had their predecessors!

From this side I welcome our new colleagues. I wish they were not quite so many; but even so, it is my hope that though they are staunch, yes, stubborn fellows, we on this side may be able to convert some, if not all of them, to our views on legislation that may be submitted for approval by the Senate.