

If, in the performance of those duties, I should at any time fall into error, I pray that the fault may be imputed to me, and not to the Commons, whose servant I am, and who, through me, the better to enable them to discharge their duty to their King and Country, humbly claim all their undoubted rights and privileges, especially that they may have freedom of speech in their debates, access to Your Excellency's person at all seasonable times, and that their proceedings may receive from Your Excellency the most favourable consideration.

The Honourable the Speaker of the Senate then said:—

MR. SPEAKER,

I am commanded by His Excellency the Governor General to declare to you that he freely confides in the duty and attachment of the House of Commons to His Majesty's Person and Government, and not doubting that their proceedings will be conducted with wisdom, temper and prudence, he grants, and upon all occasions will recognize and allow their constitutional privileges.

I am commanded also to assure you, that the Commons shall have ready access to His Excellency upon all seasonable occasions, and that their proceedings, as well as your words and actions, will constantly receive from him the most favourable construction.

And the House being returned,—

Mr. Speaker reported that the House had been in the Senate Chamber, and that he had, in their names and on their behalf, made the usual claim of privileges, which His Excellency had been pleased to confirm to them.

Mr. Lapointe, seconded by Mr. Macdonald (Antigonish-Guysborough), moved,—

That in the opinion of this House, in view of the recent general elections, the Government was justified in retaining office and in summoning parliament; and the Government is entitled to retain office unless defeated by a vote of this House equivalent to a vote of want of confidence.

A point of Order was raised by Mr. Meighen on the ground that Notice should have been given.

And a Debate arising thereon:

Mr. Bourassa moved, That the said Debate be adjourned.

By leave of the House the said motion was withdrawn.

On motion of Mr. Lapointe, the said Debate was, by unanimous consent of the House, adjourned.

Mr. Speaker reported, That when the House did attend His Excellency the Governor General this day in the Senate Chamber, His Excellency was pleased to make a speech to both Houses of Parliament, and to prevent mistakes, he had obtained a copy which he read to the House as follows:—

*Honourable Members of the Senate:*

*Members of the House of Commons:*

It gives me pleasure to welcome you to your important duties in this first session of the fifteenth Parliament of Canada.

Since our last meeting, the Empire has been called on to lament the demise of Queen Alexandra. In our Dominion the memory of the late Queen will ever be held in affectionate remembrance. At the earliest opportunity a resolution will be submitted to you expressing the deep sympathy of the Parliament and people of Canada with His Majesty the King and other members of the Royal Family in their bereavement.