

my view relating to the constitutional responsibilities of the Senate. This principle remains as applicable today as it ever did. To use the words of Sir John A. Macdonald, it is our duty to take a "sober second look" at all government legislation. I said in 1957 and I repeat now:

It is therefore a solemn trust, which all senators share alike, to examine with the utmost care all legislation which has passed the House of Commons. This we must do to ensure that those basic principles which all Canadians hold dear are not lightly or carelessly cast aside for any reason, whether through haste or impulse on the part of the House of

Commons, or as a result of political expediency, or compromise, or otherwise.

Honourable senators, may I conclude by saying I am confident that the business of this session will be considered by us far beyond the sharp divisions of party politics, just as in the past, and that we shall at all times consider what is in the best interests only of Canada as a whole. In this regard minority governments cast an added onus on the Senate, and we must remain more alert and conscious of our duties than of our prerogatives.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Brooks, debate adjourned.

The Senate adjourned until Tuesday, October 9, at 8 p.m.

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