

They have all had public service—some directly in their provincial legislature, or in the Parliament of Canada, or in connection with political affairs. They have all taken an interest in the public welfare and I am sure that their appointment to the Senate is in keeping with the high standards of previous appointments to this chamber.

I would now like to refer to the Honourable Senator Haig who moved the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. He did it in a most excellent manner. He spoke as his father spoke here, as I recall, about his beloved province of Manitoba. We know how dearly he loved his province, and apparently his son has the same affection for and takes the same interest in it. We hope it will prosper in the manner he envisaged in his remarks during the Throne Speech debate yesterday. His father is missed in the Senate, having resigned because of ill health. Another one of our members has also resigned. I refer to Senator Thomas Farquhar.

Senator John T. Haig had first served his municipality; he then went into the Legislature of Manitoba, and subsequently came to the Parliament of Canada.

Senator Farquhar had a similar career. He had served his municipality; he had been mayor of Sault Ste. Marie; he had been in the Legislature of Ontario; and he had served in the Parliament of Canada as a commoner before he came to the Senate.

Both these gentlemen served their country well. We are sorry that ill health prevents their being with us, and we would like all members of their families to know how much we appreciate them. We only trust they will continue to live in comfort, without pain, despite their poor health, in the years to come, and over those years we shall be thinking of them.

I am very glad to see my good friend from Ottawa East (Hon. Mr. Choquette) in his place.

(Translation):

I congratulate him. His wisdom and his friendly smile will stand him in good stead no doubt. I hope he will be deputy leader for some years without sitting too long on the Speaker's right.

(Text):

While we are in this happy mood I would like to refer to an honour which has come to one of our senators during the recess. I refer to Honourable Senator Cameron, to whom the University of Alberta awarded its Golden Jubilee Award for his contribution to the life of the province. It was a well-deserved reward.

I also wish to congratulate the honourable senator from Madawaska-Restigouche (Hon. Mr. Fournier) who seconded the motion for

the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. He told us about his beautiful province of New Brunswick and inspired in us a desire to visit it, just as did Senator Haig with regard to Manitoba.

Hon. Mr. Farris: You will not be disappointed.

Hon. Mr. Macdonald (Brantford): Senator Farris says that I will not be disappointed. I know that he is referring to New Brunswick, because that is where he was born. However, I can add that we shall not be disappointed when we visit Manitoba, as Senator Beaubien (Provencher) says.

I also wish to congratulate Senator Fournier for his fluency in both our languages. He is completely bilingual, and has set a splendid example for some of us who are struggling to learn his delightful tongue.

Honourable senators, so far in this debate there has been very little said about the election which took place during the interval in which we have been absent from Ottawa, and I know that you would all be disappointed if I did not have something to say about it.

What are the facts about the result of that election? The most notable is that the Liberals, under the leadership of the Honourable Lester B. Pearson, achieved the greatest political comeback in the history of Canada—I do not have to add anything to that statement—whereas, the Progressive Conservatives suffered the most overwhelming defeat ever delivered to any political party in the history of Canada.

Honourable senators, never had a Prime Minister such a large following in the House of Commons as Mr. Diefenbaker had in 1958. But how the mighty did fall! On June 18, instead of holding 208 seats the Progressive Conservative candidates were successful in only 116 constituencies, which is considerably less than the number required for an overall majority. Despite this the Prime Minister presumed to represent Canada at the Commonwealth Conference, without first obtaining authority from Parliament to do so. Not that I object to his going to London—I want to make that clear—but, being the head of a minority government, the least he could have done was call Parliament and receive a vote of confidence.

You will recall that on June 18 the Prime Minister and his government were completely discredited at the polls. The people had spoken: the electors, in overwhelming numbers, had said that they did not like the way the Government was conducting the affairs of the country. Under these circumstances, had he any respect for the democratic processes of our Constitution, of which we and he proudly boast, only one course was open