

CANADA

# House of Commons Debates

## OFFICIAL REPORT

Speaker: The Honourable Lucien Lamoureux

• (10:30 a.m.)

### FIRST SESSION—TWENTY EIGHTH PARLIAMENT

The twenty seventh parliament having been prorogued and dissolved by proclamation on the twenty third day of April, 1968, and writs having been issued and returned, a new parliament was summoned to meet for the dispatch of business on Thursday, September 12, 1968, and did accordingly meet on that day.

**Thursday, September 12, 1968**

This being the day on which parliament is convoked by proclamation of His Excellency the Governor General for the dispatch of business, and the members of the house being assembled:

**Alistair Fraser, Esquire, the Clerk of the House**, read to the house a letter from the assistant secretary to the Governor General informing him that the Right Honourable J. R. Cartwright, Chief Justice of Canada, in his capacity as Deputy Governor General, would proceed to the Senate chamber to open the first session of the twenty eighth parliament of Canada on Thursday, the twelfth day of September, at ten thirty o'clock.

A message was delivered by Major C. R. Lamoureux, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, as follows:

Members of the House of Commons:

It is the desire of the Honourable the Deputy of His Excellency the Governor General that this honourable house attend him immediately in the chamber of the honourable the Senate.

Accordingly, the house went up to the Senate chamber, when the Speaker of the Senate said:

Honourable Members of the Senate, and Members of the House of Commons:

I have it in command to let you know that His Excellency the Governor General does not see fit to declare the causes of his summoning the present parliament of Canada until the Speaker of the House of Commons shall have been chosen accord-

ing to law, but this afternoon, at the hour of three o'clock, His Excellency will declare the causes of calling this parliament.

• (10:50 a.m.)

And the House being returned to the Commons chamber:

### ELECTION OF SPEAKER

MR. LUCIEN LAMOUREUX, MEMBER FOR THE ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF STORMONT-DUNDAS

[*Translation*]

**Right Hon. P.-E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Fraser, the first and one of the most important tasks of the members upon the opening of a new parliament is the election of the Speaker of the house. The member whom we choose will preside over our deliberations and direct the services which are essential to the efficient guidance of our business; he will also represent us on numerous occasions in Canada as well as abroad.

[*English*]

To perform these functions, and to perform them to our satisfaction, he will require a formidable array of qualities. He must enjoy our respect without losing our affection. He must be firm yet sensitive, a master of language and a good listener, able to interpret the law and to understand human nature. He must be prepared to cite a precedent, and to know when to distinguish it. It will be helpful if he has a good sense of humour, and if