

**Hon. Mr. Martin** moved that the bill be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading on Thursday next.

Motion agreed to.

#### INTERNAL ECONOMY

**Hon. A. Hamilton McDonald**, with leave of the Senate and notwithstanding Rule 45(1)(e), moved:

That the Standing Committee on Internal Economy and Contingent Accounts be empowered, without special reference by the Senate, to consider any matter affecting the internal economy of the Senate, and that it report the result of such consideration to the Senate.

Motion agreed to.

#### SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

##### MOTION FOR ADDRESS IN REPLY—DEBATE ADJOURNED

The Senate proceeded to consideration of His Excellency the Governor General's speech at the opening of the session.

**Hon. Gildas L. Molgat** moved, seconded by Hon. Louis de G. Giguère:

That the following Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General of Canada:

To His Excellency the Right Honourable Roland Michener, Chancellor and Principal Companion of the Order of Canada, upon whom has been conferred the Canadian Forces' Decoration, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada.

May it please Your Excellency:

We, Her Majesty's most loyal and dutiful subjects, the Senate of Canada, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to offer our humble thanks to Your Excellency for the gracious Speech which Your Excellency has addressed to both Houses of Parliament.

He said: Honourable senators, it is with the deepest regret that my first words on entry into this chamber must be words of most sincere condolence to Madame Laporte and her family in this tragic period. Seldom has the death of a man been more widely and deeply mourned than that of this devoted Canadian, Pierre Laporte. In this period of crisis for Canada, when our democratic institutions are being attacked when the whole fabric of our nation is being tested, this unbelievable murder strikes at the heart of every Canadian from coast to coast. Pierre Laporte's name will be recorded in Canadian history as a martyr to freedom.

The sympathy and the deep concern of all Canadians is extended as well at this time to Mrs. Cross and her family in their continuing ordeal.

I shall say more about the present situation later in my comments, but wanted at the outset to express my most sincere feelings to these families.

[Translation]

In the Manitoba legislature where I started on my career in public life, it is customary that a speech delivered during this debate should open with congratulations directed to the Speaker of the House.

The same practice prevails here, I believe, but, honourable senators, the greetings I am directing to the Speaker of the Senate, the Honourable Jean-Paul Deschatelets, are not merely incidental compliments or phrases recited simply to abide by an established practice.

Of course, I am not personally in a position to speak of his function here in the Senate because I have never been here before. However, I may venture to say that his reputation has reached far beyond the walls of this chamber and, in addition, in many instances I have had the opportunity of calling on him at a time when we both had other responsibilities. I know that his personal virtues, good taste, charm and good nature concur to make of him an eminent Speaker.

I wish him long and happy years in office.

I have become aware that the strong political differences which have divided some of us prior to our being appointed to this chamber will be from now on somewhat mitigated. Nevertheless, the fact remains that for years and years the Senate has been known to be divided into two groups.

Also, I would like to congratulate the Opposition Leader in the Senate, the Honourable Jacques Flynn, whose reputation has been known to me for many years and whom I had the honour of meeting a few days ago. We can expect from him vigorous but well-informed opposition.

[English]

For many years I have admired the Honourable Paul Martin, Leader of the Government in the Senate, and I am especially pleased to salute him on this occasion. Here is a man who has devoted his entire life to the service of Canada. During those years he has not only left his mark on Canada but, more than that, he has helped to leave Canada's mark on the world.

**Hon. Senators:** Hear, hear.

**Hon. Mr. Molgat:** I am grateful that his wise counsel and his deep understanding of all parts of Canada and its multitude of peoples are at the nation's service. I thank our leader most sincerely for the honour he has accorded me in asking me to move the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne.

The Speech from the Throne contains many proposals which honourable senators will be dealing with in detail as the legislation is passed on to us. These specific proposals are important to the welfare of our nation, but it seems to me that, while recognizing the most pressing problems of pollution, unemployment, inflation and so on, the greatest issue before us now is national unity and the survival of our nation. The attitude and the approach the Government will take in the face of the present problems