

Rules of the Senate, amended as of October 18, 1977, will govern our conduct.

Senator Smith (Colchester): Honourable senators, I wonder if I might make an observation. I seem not to have been the beneficiary of the distribution system, unless I misunderstood the honourable senator, because the only book I see on my desk is dated 1976, and has in it a number of notes which I made on another occasion. I am wondering if perhaps I missed something.

Sometimes, you know, a little comment will bring about miraculous results. Since beginning my remarks, a copy of the revised Rules of the Senate has landed on my desk. I wonder if we could be assured that when we address similar comments to the Leader of the Government, the response will be as prompt and effective as when we address comments to Senator Molson.

Senator Molson: Honourable senators, I suppose it would be out of order to say that the honourable senator's situation has been covered by rule X, which is that the squeaky wheel gets the grease.

Senator Grosart: Honourable senators, I wonder if I might ask the chairman of the Rules Committee if it is the intention to update Appendix 1, which is a very important appendix to our rules. It lists related documents which affect our procedures and rights and privileges in the Senate. The appendix is very much out of date, and I imagine the Law Clerk could easily bring it up to date.

● (1410)

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

MOTION FOR ADDRESS IN REPLY—DEBATE ADJOURNED

The Senate proceeded to consideration of Her Majesty the Queen's Speech at the opening of the Third Session of the Thirtieth Parliament.

Hon. Royce Frith moved:

That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty the Queen in the following words:

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty:
Most Gracious Sovereign:

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

He said: Honourable senators, before speaking in support of this motion, I should like to make a brief reference to the last session, which was my first session as a member of Parliament. I want to take this occasion to pay my compliments to and thank the Speaker, and to congratulate her on the resumption of another, and I hope long, gracious, warm and good-humoured reign. I also want to express my thanks and

appreciation to the Leader of the Government in the Senate and the deputy leader for their thorough, skilful and, to me, most impressive attention to the Senate's business; to our smiling, efficient, velvet-gloved but iron-fisted Whip, Senator Petten, and also, if I may, honourable senators, to the Leader of the Opposition, the Honourable Jacques Flynn, P.C., and his colleagues, for what seemed to me to be their very loyal, effective work in the Senate in circumstances that I think should be acknowledged as difficult, having regard for the obligations that he and his colleagues have both in the Senate and in the manning of committees. The way they have carried that burden has earned the respect and admiration of us all.

If I may, I should like to add just one other word of appreciation for the staff, and to say how proud I was yesterday to be a senator playing, with all of you my colleagues, host to the House of Commons and many distinguished guests, and participating in an impressive and moving ceremony that went so well. In my experience, things like that just do not happen without hours and hours of hard detailed work by the staff.

Honourable senators, it is a privilege to be given the opportunity to move this motion, and a privilege to be a Canadian in these times—although I am beginning to understand that famous Chinese curse: May you live in interesting times.

The 25 years of Her Majesty's reign have certainly been interesting times. Perhaps it was less of a strain to be a Canadian in the more bountiful and placid fifties, when Her Gracious Majesty was crowned, than it is in the year of her jubilee, but I think that most of us welcome today's chance to test our individual and national mettle.

In speaking in support of the motion, honourable senators, I wish to examine an important theme that I heard throughout the Speech from the Throne. It seems to me that Her Majesty's gracious Speech to both houses of Parliament clearly addressed problems in terms of people and, in doing so, recognized the alienation and frustration of the individual human being in post-industrial society.

The Speech looks at unemployment, for example, in terms of its human hardship; not in terms of global statistics. It speaks of food and energy in terms of self-reliance and conservation; of the northern pipeline in terms of government consultation and native rights; of unity in terms of alienation, inequality and economic injustice. It speaks of finding the cause of problems in the human spirit, of the need to listen to each other, of generosity, of the realm of the spirit and the rediscovery of the spirit of the country that is in all of us. It speaks of learning from those who are interested in Canada and who have thoughts on how it can be a better place in which to live; of language rights of those who are members of minorities; of public access to official documents; and of a new era.

In the 25 years that have led to this Silver Jubilee, the world has changed dramatically, and so has our country. Our own experience confirms Alvin Toffler's analysis of accelerated change—change that has taken place in 25 years that in earlier times took 100 years or more. Canada, as we know it