

record of achievement. He was not one of the most voluble speakers in this chamber, nor was he so in the House of Commons, but he attended the committee meetings and he followed with interest the work of the house. His passing is indeed a loss.

Lastly, I have to refer to the late Senator Golding. He also was not a giant in intellect, but there have been few men in Parliament in my time who had shrewder and sounder common sense and judgment than had Senator Golding. After all, as someone has said, wisdom is but the essence of common sense.

Senator Golding was a wise man. He had a record of fine service before he came into Parliament many years ago, and he served faithfully and with distinction as a member of the House of Commons and later as a member of this chamber.

We all mourn the passing of these fine colleagues, but I venture to say that those of us on this side of the house who marched with them in the sunshine and the rain will perhaps hold more closely in our memories their achievements during their period of life with us.

Honourable senators, before coming to the motion before us, I do have some other obligations to discharge. The first is to you, Mr. Speaker. We are all delighted to see you back with your usual vigour. We are delighted to see you because we like you and we respect you. You have always been fair, and I can say without any effort whatever at Irish blarney, such as that which my honourable friend from Gulf (Hon. Mr. Power) could indulge in under similar circumstances, that we all respect you and wish you well.

My next task is particularly pleasant. It is to congratulate the honourable Leader of the Government in this house, my old friend Senator Aseltine, on his joining the brotherhood of the Privy Council. Quite a substantial number of these gentlemen are abroad in the land. It is not without some significance, and I trust I may not be misunderstood if I refer to it, that in this company in point of service and seniority I now stand second. And so as one of the old stagers, who is pretty well dated by that fact, I welcome the most recent recruit and trust that his association with the Privy Council will be as long and as happy as mine has been.

My next task is to make reference to the honourable senators who moved and seconded the motion under consideration. The mover, Senator Méthot, discharged his duty like an old veteran, although he had been here only a few years. We all like Senator Méthot, and some of us on this side regret that political fortune did not place him differently. We respect him, and I compliment him on the

excellence of his speech in moving the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, for in itself this motion was a heavy burden as I shall endeavour to point out before too long.

May I also welcome the new senator from Newfoundland, Senator Hollett, whose designation I believe is Burin. I am not sure that I have pronounced it correctly.

Hon. Mr. Higgins: That is right.

Hon. Mr. Crerar: When the honourable Leader of the Government (Hon. Mr. Aseltine) referred to him yesterday as a distinguished graduate of Oxford University in England, being strong in the field of mathematics, I knew we had a most distinguished addition to our assembly. It was almost frightening to me, an old senator who was reared on the hard-bitten Prairies seventy-odd years ago. Nevertheless, I welcome Senator Hollett, and I venture to express the hope that his interest and skill in mathematics may afford him the opportunity of totalling up some figures and placing them before the Government in respect to our financial situation. I can assure him that were he to do so he would be rendering a most useful service to his country.

I come now to the Speech from the Throne itself. To say the least, it is an interesting document. I read it through carefully, weighing all the sentences. It reminded me of a story I heard many years ago about the late William Jennings Bryan, who was an eminent public man in the United States 65 years ago, when, at the age of 36 years, he was the Democratic candidate for the presidency of the Republic. He was known as the silver-tongued orator from the Platte—the Platte being a river in that part of the United States from which he came. There were, of course, no television or radio broadcasts in those days and if you wanted to hear a man speak you had to attend a meeting he was addressing. It is not a nostalgia for old times, but perhaps those conditions had some advantages over what we have today. A Nebraskan—and Bryan was a Nebraskan—was visiting Chicago after Bryan had created quite a stir in the country. A Chicago friend asked the Nebraskan, "What are Bryan's speeches like?" The Nebraskan replied, "Oh, Bryan's speeches are like the river Platte, which is a thousand miles long, ten miles wide at its mouth and two feet deep".

I am bound to say that when I read the Speech from the Throne—perhaps it was ill will on my part, although I think not—this story about Bryan was brought back to my memory.

The first thing that struck me on reading the speech was not only its length but