

Let us keep our senate! Very few changes are needed to bring it up to perfection, operandi-wise.

No need to change its name either!

We do not need a House of Representatives; we do not need a House of the Provinces: we need what we now have, namely, a Senate.

I trust that those who pay heed to the arguments that I have advanced here today, if they are worthy of that name—perhaps I should call them beliefs—will find that some of those arguments or beliefs appeal to them, and that they will take them unto themselves and say, “Amendments may be needed, changes perhaps there should be, but whatever we do, let us not fool ourselves into believing that a change to a body of elected members is going to have any worthwhile effect, either on this house or on this country.”

Hon. Robert Muir: Honourable senators, would the Honourable Senator Donahoe permit a question?

Senator Donahoe: By all means.

Senator Muir: Honourable senators, I have always enjoyed hearing Senator Donahoe make a speech, whether in this chamber or in the Legislature of Nova Scotia, or on the platform, or wherever it may be.

He quoted from a newspaper, and I was wondering what woman, or man, or possibly someone in between, had written the article. Could the honourable senator put the name of the

author on the record, and advise if that man or woman, or whoever it may be, has ever offered himself or herself for public office in an election, whether it be for dog-catcher, city alderman, town councillor, member of the House of Commons, or whatever it may be?

Senator Donahoe: I have great pleasure in answering the question. I so violently disagree with those who say that the quality of person who would come into this house would be the kind of persons that I referred to, that I made not the slightest effort to find out what kind of person made the statement. I said to myself, “I do not want to know that kind of person!”

Senator Muir: I have just one further comment on that. I appreciate the honourable senator’s reply. Perhaps I should not lower the debate to such an extent in view of his enlightening remarks. You will find that many, many times, however, the greatest critics of the House of Commons, of the Senate, of elected municipal officials, are armchair generals who sit back and never at any time offer themselves for any position in their town, city, county, province or country. In reflecting on such comments, you have to consider the source from which they come, I suppose.

Senator Donahoe: I agree.

On motion of Senator Frith, for Senator Bosa, debate adjourned.

The Senate adjourned until Tuesday, March 16, at 8 p.m.