

in their calamities or losses there has been nobody here to say a kind word on their behalf.

Hon. L. O. DAVID: I would ask that the debate be adjourned until to-morrow; not for myself, but because there are two or three members who are absent, doing honour to the Prince of Wales in Montreal, and I think they will be here to-morrow and will wish to take part in the discussion. It will not be long.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: Anything that will please honourable gentlemen on the other side I agree to at once.

On motion of Hon. Mr. David, the debate was adjourned.

The Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 3 p.m.

THE SENATE.

Wednesday, September 3, 1919.

The Senate met at 3 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

THE LATE LT.-COL. BAKER, M.P.

FORM OF MEMORIAL.

Hon. GEORGE G. FOSTER: I give notice of the following motion for Friday next:

That the following Senators, to wit, the Honourable Messieurs Bradbury, Casgrain, Pope and the mover, be appointed a Special Committee to confer and act with the Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons, who have in charge the building and arrangement of the new Parliament Building, for the purpose of considering and reporting upon the form of the Memorial to the late Lieutenant-Colonel Baker, M.P., for Brome, to be erected in the said building.

I may say for the information of this Chamber that the committee which was appointed last session had several meetings and after some difficulty we decided on the location of the memorial. There was a difference of opinion as to whether it should be in the Senate or in the House of Commons, but it was finally decided unanimously that it should be placed at the entrance of the tower of the House of Commons, and it is in order to carry that out and to decide upon the form of the memorial that I give notice of this motion.

THE NEW PARLIAMENT BUILDING.

PROGRESS OF CONSTRUCTION.

On the Orders of the Day:

Hon. FREDERIC NICHOLLS: Honourable gentlemen, with the permission of the Hon. Mr. DOMVILLE.

House, I would like to ask the honourable leader of the Government if he has any definite or specific information in reference to the probability of the Senate Chamber in the new Parliament building being ready for occupation at the next session. I have heard various statements in regard to the situation. One is that, while the Commons Chamber will be ready for occupation, it will not be possible for the Senate Chamber to be ready, but the Senate can perhaps be accommodated in one of the committee rooms. Now, I have had more or less experience in building, and after a very careful examination of the surroundings I personally believe that, if an effort were made, the Senate Chamber could be completed in time for the next session. I pay great deference to the opinion of the honourable member for Amherst (Hon. Mr. Curry), who made a thorough inspection yesterday, and who assures me that in his judgment there should be no difficulty in having the Senate Chamber ready for occupation next session, provided the work is energetically proceeded with. But a visit to the new Parliament building discloses the fact that there are no workmen in the Senate wing at all. It has always been the custom for the opening of Parliament to take place in the Senate Chamber and, presumably, next session there would be a function of more or less importance in connection with the opening of the new building. Certainly no committee room will afford facilities for the function that should take place. I do not know whether, under the constitution, Parliament could be opened in the House of Commons; but in any event it is imperative, in my mind, that, not only on the score of economy, but on the score of convenience and on the score of proper deference to this honourable House, every possible effort should be made and must be made in order that the Senate Chamber may be ready for our occupation by the opening of Parliament next February or March, if Parliament does not meet before then. That would leave five or six months. The ceiling is practically completed; the walls are completed; and even if the main entrance were not completed, the Chamber itself could be made ready for our occupation.

Possibly the leader of the House or some honourable gentleman who is a member of the Building Committee can enlighten this House with regard to what steps are being taken to see that the work is energetically proceeded with.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: I quite agree with my honourable friend from Toronto as to the desirability of our occupy-