

Privilege—Mr. Brown

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On the Orders of the Day:

Mr. J. L. BROWN (Lisgar): On a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker, I wish to correct a report that has appeared in one of the Ottawa papers, and if I may, I shall read a very brief extract:

Premier King and his cabinet met the rank and file of the Liberal party and with the group of nine Liberal-Progressives who entered the Liberal camp with their leader of last session, Robert Forke.

As a matter of accuracy, the nine Liberal-Progressive members referred to were not present. This occasion may afford me an opportunity, Mr. Speaker, for making a statement with reference to a resolution that was passed at Winnipeg on September 22, 1926, as follows:

Resolution passed by Liberal-Progressive Members for Manitoba at Winnipeg

It was recognized that the country had demanded a stable government and the group are anxious to comply with that demand.

That the policies upon which the Progressives and Liberals were elected are based upon common principles.

That for the enactment of legislation embodying those policies the group are in favour of the acceptance of a portfolio by Mr. Forke in the Liberal cabinet.

That such acceptance shall be upon condition that the Progressive party shall give united support to the government upon those principles, and that the Progressive group shall retain its identity as hitherto.

This statement is made in behalf of the members for Lisgar, Selkirk, Provencher, Souris, Neepawa, Marquette, Dauphin, Qu'Appelle, Macdonald and North Huron.

GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SPEECH

ADDRESS IN REPLY MOVED BY MR. L. M. AUGER
SECONDED BY MR. E. A. MCPHERSON

The House proceeded to the consideration of the speech of His Excellency the Governor General at the opening of the session.

Mr. LOUIS AUGER (Prescott) (Translation): Mr. Speaker, in accepting the task and the honour conferred by the government, I am relying upon the leniency of the House and I feel confident that it will not be denied to a new and quite a young member who finds himself besieged by fear at the sight of the grandeur and majesty of his surroundings. In the presence of so distinguished political men of all parties—friends and opponents—I well realize, notwithstanding all the illusions pertaining to youth, the deficiency of my personal qualifications and I am fully aware that it is not to my humble personality I owe this

[Mr. Dunning.]

privilege, for which I am proud and thankful, of moving the address in answer to the speech from the throne.

The government are broad-minded and magnanimous. In conferring on me this honour they have their eyes on the people of the old French constituency of Prescott, always faithful to their policy. Neither was the French Canadian minority of Ontario lost sight of. Allow me, Sir, on behalf of all my fellow-citizens of Ontario and especially those of Prescott, to lay at the feet of the government, who honours them in my person, the very respectful homage of my most vivid and deepest gratitude.

May I be further permitted, before discussing the speech from the throne, to greet His Excellency the Governor General and his worthy spouse with the warmest welcome, and thank him for accepting the very high and dignified post of representative of the British Crown in our country. We are overjoyed at his appointment. To us he is not a stranger. His high reputation as a diplomat, acquired while he was Viceroy of India and Bombay, preceded him among us. Moreover, he is somewhat of a Canadian through the work accomplished by his ancestors in this country. Canadian readers have read with much interest the book entitled: *A Voyage Around the World in the Sunbeam*, and the author of which is no other than Lady Brassey, the revered mother of Her Excellency Lady Willingdon. For all the above reasons, His Excellency may rest assured of meeting here open arms and hearts filled with loyalty and affection.

There is a further agreeable and pleasant duty devolving upon me, that of welcoming the return of the right hon. the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King), and the hon. Minister of Justice (Mr. Lapointe). Having left this country immediately after the great electoral victory, for which they were mainly responsible, they return among us from London, greatly enhanced through the work they have accomplished for the maintenance and natural development of Canadian autonomy and for the welfare of the other parts of the empire.

Allow me, Mr. Speaker, to offer you my sincere congratulations on your re-election to the Speakership of this House. It is to your impartiality, tact, judgment and dignity that you owe this third term. For my part, I shall further add to the unanimous praise that you have already received from this House: the wish that you may remain among us a long time, in order that we may re-elect you a score of times to preside over our deliberations.