

On motion it was—

Ordered, That the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General be taken into consideration on Tuesday, next.

With leave of the Senate, and—

On motion of the Honourable Senator Hugessen, for the Honourable Senator Robertson, it was—

Ordered, That all the Senators present during the Session be appointed a Committee to consider the Orders and Customs of the Senate and Privileges of Parliament, and that the said Committee have leave to meet in the Senate Chamber when and as often as they please.

The Honourable the Speaker presented to the Senate Report of the Librarians of Parliament.

The same was then read by the Clerk, as follows:—

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIANS FOR 1949

(2nd Report)

(2nd Session, 21st Parliament)

To the Honourable the Speaker of the Senate,

The Joint Librarians of Parliament have the honour to submit their second report for the year 1949.

The Supplementary Catalogue of books donated, purchased, deposited under the Copyright Act, and obtained through inter-governmental exchange of documents during the course of the year, is in the hands of the printers and will be distributed as soon as completed.

On December 15, 1949, Mr. Joseph Tarte, Chief Reference Clerk, was retired on superannuation. Mr. Tarte has done honourable and useful service in the Library of Parliament for twenty-eight years.

The new province of Newfoundland is providing us with their current documents.

During the recess every effort has been made to relieve the congestion which prevails in the Library. Much space has been saved by buying the micro-film editions of twenty-three daily newspapers. Many thousands of volumes not considered important to Parliament have been transferred to a room kindly lent to us by the Supreme Court. These measures, however, can only ease the situation temporarily. In addition to the 5,000 or 6,000 books added yearly to the Library the growth of documents has become a very serious problem. From the United Nations alone we have received 41,000 documents in the last four years. It might be well for the Joint Committee on the Library to consider whether the Library should remain a depository Library of the United Nations for (1) all their publications, in which case an average of 10,000 documents will be added to the collection every year; or (2) only their printed Reports and Indexes, in which case all requests for mimeographed reports would be referred to the Department of External Affairs which maintains a complete file.