Mr. Drew was born in Guelph. He received his education there and was one of the youngest mayors of that city. He will be greatly missed in Guelph, as he will be missed throughout the country, for the part he has played as a great Canadian. He was a great soldier, having joined the militia at the earliest possible age. I think he was 60 years in the militia and served as active and as honorary colonel of the 11th Field Regiment.

He was an author of renown and a diplomat of great repute, having been, as was stated earlier, Canadian High Commissioner to the United Kingdom. Therefore, on behalf of the people of the area, and in particular of the city of Guelph, I am pleased to add my words to those already spoken. I close simply by saying that the light he leaves behind will shine upon the paths of men.

* * *

INTERNAL ECONOMY COMMISSION

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister) presented the following message from His Excellency the Governor General:

The Governor General transmits to the House of Commons a certified copy of an order in council appointing the Hon. Allan Joseph MacEachen, President of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada, the Hon. Charles Mills Drury, President of the Treasury Board, the Hon. Jean Chrétien, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, and the Hon. Donald Stovel Macdonald, Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, to act with the Speaker of the House of Commons as commissioners for the purposes and under the provisions of chapter H-9 of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1970, intituled: An act respecting the House of Commons.

* * *

[*Translation*]

STANDING COMMITTEES

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister) moved:

That, according to the provisions of Standing Order 65, a Striking Committee be appointed to prepare and report list of members to compose the standing committees of this house and that such committee be composed of Messrs. Baldwin, Bell, Fortin, Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre), Lefebvre and MacEachen; and that the provisions of Standing Order 65(1) not apply with regard to the number of members on such committee.

Motion agreed to.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES OF THE WHOLE

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I have the pleasant duty to recommend to the House a candidate to the position of Deputy Speaker and Chairman of Committees of the Whole House. Under different circumstances, Mr. Speaker, this motion would have been put without comments, but, with your kind permission, I would like to make a few this time. As a matter of fact, I would blame myself if I failed today to draw the attention of the House not only to the qualifications of the candidate, but also to the exceptional character of the occasion.

Appointment of Chairmen of Committees of the Whole

[*English*]

The qualities which I mentioned earlier this day as being necessary in the occupant of the office of Speaker are, of course, equally necessary in the person of his deputy. We are fortunate that the hon. member for Halifax-East Hants (Mr. McCleave) displays these qualities in large measure. Mr. Robert McCleave is a veteran member of this House, having come here first in 1957 and having been successful in seeking re-election on five subsequent occasions. He is no stranger either to this House or to adjudicating its business.

Only once before in the history of this place has a member of the opposition been Deputy Speaker. That was more than half a century ago and the occasion was made necessary by circumstances quite different from those which prompt me to move Mr. McCleave's name for this important office. I wish only to add that those of us on this side of the House have every confidence in the wisdom and impartiality of Mr. McCleave and intend to support his nomination and his tenure without hesitation.

[*Translation*]

Therefore, I move, seconded by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield), that Mr. Robert McCleave, member for the electoral district of Halifax East Hants, be appointed Chairman of Committees of the Whole House.

[*English*]

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I welcome the nomination of Mr. McCleave as Deputy Speaker. I expressed the hope, in a similar situation back in 1968, that some time in the future the deputy speaker might be selected from the opposition side of the House. It gives me particular pleasure to second the nomination of a member of my own party who has grown continuously in stature since he first entered this chamber in 1957.

• (1700)

He is experienced on both sides of the House: on the government side as a member, as chairman of the miscellaneous private bills committee and as a parliamentary secretary; on the opposition side he has had a series of posts in which it has been his duty to cast his eye over various governments.

He has, as well, had professional experience as a lawyer and as a broadcaster, and perhaps he will now be involved in the hottest "hot line" he has ever had. His reputation, then, is fully justified and I know it will be appreciated by all members of the House. He will be fair and he will bring great distinction to his office. I take great pleasure in seconding the motion.

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, I will be very brief. I want to say on behalf of my colleagues and myself that we enthusiastically support the well-orchestrated arrangement that has been come to between the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield). I have had the pleasure of working with the hon. member for Halifax-East Hants (Mr. McCleave) and have found him a decent human being, very fair and very gentle, and emphasizing the first word of his party's name I therefore welcome him.