

THE SENATE

Wednesday, January 20, 1988

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

Prayers.

[Translation]

THE HONOURABLE MARTIAL ASSELIN, P.C.

FELICITATIONS TO SPEAKER *PRO TEMPORE* ON ELECTION AS PRESIDENT OF L'ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE DES PARLEMENTAIRES DE LANGUE FRANÇAISE

Hon. Norbert Thériault: Honourable senators, today I would like to congratulate the Speaker *pro tempore* of the Senate on his election as president of the Association internationale des parlementaires de langue française.

Hon. Senators: Hear, hear!

Senator Thériault: I had the privilege of being with him in Cameroon when he was elected, and I believe he still is head of the Canadian delegation. We could not have hoped for a better choice, and our Speaker *pro tempore* is well known in Francophone parliamentary circles throughout the world. I am sure he will be a credit to us.

I am sure you will all agree that this is indeed an honour for the Senate and Senator Asselin.

Hon. Senators: Hear, hear!

Hon. Arthur Tremblay: Honourable senators, I am of course delighted to join Senator Thériault in congratulating our Speaker *pro tempore* and president of the Association internationale des parlementaires de langue française.

Unfortunately, I was not present when the election took place. However, on many other occasions I was able to witness the role played by Senator Asselin within the association and his contribution to its policies.

The fact that a member of the Canadian Senate was elected president of the association and that his predecessor was from the African continent has special significance.

If I am not mistaken, it is the first time that a Canadian or even a North American—the association includes members from North America who are not from Canada—was elected president. This fact is very significant and it reflects the role played by Canada on the international scene among French-speaking countries, a role similar to the one it had started to play in the Commonwealth. In the case of the international “Francophonie”, however, this role is becoming quite substantial. The fact that Senator Asselin is now president of the association would seem to reinforce that view.

It is with great pride that I join Senator Thériault, on behalf of my colleagues, in extending our congratulations to Senator Asselin.

Hon. Gildas Molgat: Honourable senators, I would like to add my comments to those made by Senators Thériault and Tremblay. Those among us who have had the pleasure of working with Senator Asselin realize that this decision reflects the recognition that non-Canadian members of the AIPLF have for his work and we can only rejoice in that decision.

As Senator Tremblay pointed out, I think it is the first time in many years that the AIPLF elected a president from a country outside the African continent. I think that for Canada this is particularly significant, and that for us it is particularly significant that Senator Asselin was chosen.

The Hon. the Speaker *pro tempore*: Honourable senators, I wish to thank Senators Thériault, Tremblay and Molgat for their kind words.

The reason the delegates decided to elect me president of the Association internationale des parlementaires de langue française was mainly their desire to recognize the major role played by Canada today within the international “Francophonie”, as was pointed out by Senator Tremblay.

I accept this tribute with great humility. I may add that in Cameroon, at the time of my election, I headed a Canadian delegation that was a credit to this country.

[English]

REGULATIONS AND OTHER STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

STANDING JOINT COMMITTEE—CHANGE OF NAME—MESSAGE FROM COMMONS REFERRED TO STANDING RULES AND ORDERS COMMITTEE

The Hon. the Speaker *pro tempore* informed the Senate that the following message had been received:

HOUSE OF COMMONS
CANADA

Friday, December 18, 1987

ORDERED,—That a Message be sent to the Senate requesting that House to unite with this House for the purpose of altering the name of the present Standing Joint Committee on Regulations and other Statutory Instruments to the Standing Joint Committee for Regulatory Scrutiny.