

THE SENATE

Wednesday, March 12, 1952

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

Prayers and routine proceedings.

PRIVATE BILL

FIRST READING

Hon. Mr. Campbell presented Bill D, an Act respecting the British Northwestern Fire Insurance Company.

The bill was read the first time.

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, when shall the bill be read the second time?

Hon. Mr. Campbell: With leave of the Senate, next sitting.

UNIVERSITY DEBATING CHAMPIONSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENT OF WINNERS

Hon. T. V. Grant: Honourable senators, before the Orders of the Day are called I should like to announce that Mr. Allan MacDonald and Mr. Walter Reid, students at St. Dunstan's University, Charlottetown, and representing that university, won the Canadian University Debating Championship last Saturday evening at Ottawa. I would point out a slight error in the *Guardian* newspaper of Charlottetown, which states that they won the "Dominion" championship? It should read, the "Canadian championship."

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

ADDRESS IN REPLY

The Senate resumed from Wednesday, March 5, consideration of His Excellency the Governor-General's Speech at the opening of the session, and the motion of Hon. Mr. Howden for an Address in reply thereto.

Hon. John T. Haig: Honourable members, I regret that I was not here the other day to hear the address of the honourable senator from St. Boniface (Hon. Mr. Howden) and the honourable member from De Salaberry (Hon. Mr. Gouin). I had the pleasure, of course, of reading their speeches, and must congratulate them on their addresses. In this connection, I am glad the leader of the government (Hon. Mr. Robertson) chose the two honourable gentlemen from among those whom we may call "old-timers", one of whom had served also in the other place. It

is an honour which is particularly appreciated, I believe, by those of us from Manitoba, that the honourable senator from St. Boniface was chosen to move the Address.

I should have liked to be here to have expressed at that time my appreciation of having been a subject of His late Majesty King George VI. He gave the world a fine example of constitutional monarchy; he was revered throughout the land, from the humblest homes to the very highest; he was beloved throughout the British Commonwealth of Nations.

I join with everyone, not only in Canada but in the world at large, in hailing the ascension to the throne of Queen Elizabeth II. Those of us who have read history are hopeful that the reign of the second Queen Elizabeth will witness as much impetus to the progress of Great Britain as did the reign of her predecessor, and that it will be for the world a period of unexampled progress in the pursuit of prosperity and happiness.

I should also like to have been here to pay tribute to the memory of my late colleague, Honourable Senator Bourque, or Dr. Bourque, as he was known to many of us. I like what the honourable senator from St. Boniface (Hon. Mr. Howden) said about him. I do not think any person can make a greater contribution to his country than can a doctor, and Dr. Bourque was a real family physician to all the people in his community. We on this side of the house will indeed miss him, and I want to join in the message conveyed to his family by my deputy leader (Hon. Mr. Aseltine), and say that we shall never forget the distinguished service rendered by the late Senator Bourque to his province and to his country.

Parliament was in session when the late Senator Aylesworth celebrated his ninety-fourth birthday a few years ago, and I should like to recall the story I told about him at that time. Two of his former students, some thirty-five years after they had served in his office, were partners in a law firm. One day they had a dispute over a legal point, so they sent down to Toronto to get Sir Allen's opinion. I was a student in the office of these partners, and I did not know who was right or wrong, but I do recall that when they received Sir Allen's opinion the matter was settled to their satisfaction. As every lawyer in this house knows, it is a great honour when a former student asks you for your opinion and abides by it.

After coming to this house Sir Allen became afflicted, and his affliction grew until he was unable to take an active part in the deliberations of this house. But he was one of our great Canadians, and in the work he