

APPOINTMENT OF SERJEANT-AT-ARMS.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that Major Henry William Bowie has been appointed Serjeant-at-Arms of the House of Commons in place of Colonel Henry R. Smith, C.M.G., I.S.O., A.D.C., deceased.

I have also the honour to inform the House that, pending the return of the Serjeant-at-Arms from overseas, I have appointed Louis Charles Panet, Esquire, as Acting Assistant Serjeant-at-Arms.

THE LATE DR. A. E. HANNA.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: Mr. Speaker, before the session is suspended I should like to call the attention of the House to the fact that although this Parliament has been so newly elected, one of the members who should have taken his place among us has already passed away, even before he could formally be returned to the House and before he had the opportunity of taking his seat. I refer to Dr. A. E. Hanna, who sat in this House as member for South Lanark for some four or five years. He had not a long parliamentary career, and his voice was not heard very often within the walls of Parliament, but all those of us who were associated with him in the last Parliament can bear witness to his strong devotion to duty, his intelligent grasp of public questions, and his desire to fulfil worthily the responsibilities resting upon him as a member of this House. I am confident that all of us will join in extending to his family our very deep sympathy in the bereavement and loss which they have sustained.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER: Mr. Speaker, the unfortunate event to which my right hon. friend has alluded may be accepted as an indication of the uncertainty of life. Dr. Hanna passed away just as he had been elected member of this House, and we are reminded of the famous Bristol election, where the opponent of Edmund Burke died during the election. Dr. Hanna has certainly left among us an appreciation of him as an honourable citizen. He was a useful member and one who was entitled to the respect of everybody. I am sure that the House will join heartily in extending its condolence to his family.

Mr. SPEAKER: I declare this sitting suspended until three o'clock this afternoon.

The House resumed at Three o'clock, Hon. Edgar N. Rhodes, Speaker, in the Chair.

A message was delivered by Colonel Ernest J. Chambers, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod:—

Mr. Speaker, His Excellency the Governor General desires the immediate attendance of this Honourable House in the Chamber of the Honourable the Senate.

Accordingly, the House went up to the Senate Chamber.

Then the Hon. Edgar N. Rhodes, Speaker-elect, said:

May it please your Excellency,

The House of Commons have elected me as their Speaker, though I am but little able to fulfil the important duties thus assigned to me. If in the performance of those duties, I should at any time fall into error, I pray that the fault may be imputed to me, and not to the Commons, whose servant I am.

The Hon. the Speaker of the Senate addressing the Hon. the Speaker of the Commons, then said:

Mr. Speaker, I am commanded by His Excellency the Governor General to assure you that your words and actions will constantly receive from him the most favourable construction.

Then His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to open Parliament by a Speech from the Throne.

And the House being returned to the Commons Chamber:

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to report that the House having attended on His Excellency the Governor General in the Senate Chamber, I informed His Excellency that the choice of Speaker had fallen on me, and in your names, and on your behalf, I made the usual claim for your privileges, which His Excellency was pleased to confirm to you.

OATHS OF OFFICE.

Bill No. 1, representing the Administration of Oaths of Office.—Sir Robert Borden.

REPORT PRESENTED.

Joint report of the Librarians of Parliament.—Mr. Speaker.

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEES.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: If my right hon. friend (Sir Wilfrid Laurier) will give me the names of members on that side of the House for a special committee to select, under Rule 10, the committees of the House, I will make the motion in that regard to-morrow.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER: Certainly.