

THE SENATE

Wednesday, January 16, 1957

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

Prayers.

Routine proceedings.

THE LATE EARL OF ATHLONE

TRIBUTE TO MEMORY OF FORMER GOVERNOR GENERAL

Hon. W. Ross Macdonald: Honourable senators, before proceeding with the business of the day, I wish to draw to the attention of honourable senators the sad news which we heard a few hours ago, that the Earl of Athlone had passed away. Honourable senators will recall that the Earl of Athlone was Governor General of Canada from 1940 until 1946, during the war. Both he and Princess Alice did not spare themselves in any way whatsoever in the service of Canada during those tragic and very difficult years.

It is interesting to note that in 1914 the Earl of Athlone was designated to the office of Governor General of Canada. However, in that year the First World War broke out, and instead of coming to Canada he served throughout that war on the battlefields of France and Flanders.

The passing of the Earl of Athlone will be deeply mourned in Canada and throughout the Commonwealth. By way of tribute to his memory, and as a mark of our deepest sympathy with Princess Alice, as well as of respect for our beloved Queen and all the members of the royal family, I would suggest, with the concurrence of the honourable Leader of the Opposition (Hon. Mr. Haig), whom I have consulted in this matter, that we rise at this time and stand briefly in silence.

Honourable senators thereupon stood during a period of silence.

STANDING COMMITTEES

QUORUMS REDUCED

The first report of each of the following standing committees, presented by or on behalf of its Chairman, recommended that its quorum be reduced as follows:

The Committee on Banking and Commerce, (Chairman, Hon. Mr. Hayden), quorum nine members.

The Committee on Transport and Communications, (Chairman, Hon. Mr. Hugessen), quorum nine members.

The Committee on Canadian Trade Relations, (Chairman, Hon. Mr. McLean), quorum seven members.

The Committee on External Relations, (Chairman, Hon. Mr. Gouin), quorum seven members.

The Committee on Standing Orders, (Chairman, Hon. Mr. Bishop), quorum three members.

The Committee on Tourist Traffic, (Chairman, Hon. Mr. Isnor), quorum seven members.

The Committee on Miscellaneous Private Bills, (Chairman, Hon. Mr. Bouffard), quorum seven members.

The Committee on Immigration and Labour, (Chairman, Hon. Mrs. Wilson), quorum seven members.

The Committee on Finance, (Chairman, Hon. Mr. Hawkins), quorum nine members.

The Committee on Public Health and Welfare, (Chairman, Hon. Mr. Veniot), quorum seven members.

The Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, (Chairman, Hon. Mr. Dessureault), quorum five members.

The committee on Debates and Reporting, (Chairman, Hon. Mr. Davies), quorum three members.

The Committee on Civil Service Administration, (Chairman, Hon. Mr. Marcotte), quorum seven members.

The Committee on Natural Resources, (Chairman, Hon. Mr. Vaillancourt), quorum nine members.

On motions, made with leave, the reports were severally adopted.

INTERNAL ECONOMY COMMITTEE

Hon. Mr. Macdonald presented the report of the Standing Committee on Internal Economy and Contingent Accounts, recommending that its quorum be reduced to seven members.

Hon. Jean-François Pouliot: Honourable senators, before this report is adopted I wish to express my appreciation to both leaders of the house, to the honourable Senator Dessureault, the honourable Senator Connolly (Ottawa West) and all my colleagues for the good work that has been done by this committee to improve conditions in the Senate chamber. I hope the committee will continue its good work, for there still are some things to be done. I trust that with good will and perseverance the physical appearance of the chamber will be improved in the near future.