House of Commons pays tribute to Sir Winston Churchill

In honour of the hundredth anniversary of Sir Winston Churchill's birthday, November 30, the House of Commons paid tribute by unanimous motion to his memory. The Member for York-Simcoe, Sinclair Stevens, who proposed the motion, recalled Churchill's speech to the Canadian Parliament in 1941 in which the famous retort, "Some chicken; some neck," was first heard.

Mr. Stevens prefixed his motion with the following words:

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There are times in the life of every institution, as in the life of every man, when the spirit flags and almost fails. Then, that institution is fortunate if there comes a man, who can by the indomitable vigour of his own heart and spirit breathe new life into that institution and give it a new hope.

At such a time in the life of these Houses of Parliament came Sir Winston Churchill to speak in this chamber on December 30, 1941 to the members of this House and of the Senate. He was introduced by the then Prime Minister, the late Right Honourable Mackenzie King, who told this House and all Canada that "in the gravest crisis in the history of the world Canada was honoured by the presence in her halls of Parliament of the man who, by his clear vision, undaunted courage, inspired utterance, and heroic spirit has given such incomparable leadership to the hosts of freedom". Then, this chamber heard that retort to the contemptuous threat that "in three weeks,

England will have her neck wrung like a chicken", that retort which from the walls of this chamber echoed round the world, "Some chicken; some neck".

It was a battle cry from a House of Commons man, delivered in this House of Commons, which gave new heart, new spirit and new hope to the institutions of parliamentary democracy throughout the free world and to the forces of freedom fighting in the dark of the underground behind the Iron Curtain. In these days of a less heroic and less dramatic crisis, let us take heart from the remembrance of that occasion. I move, seconded by the honourable member for Témiscamingue (Mr. Caouette):

That this House pays tribute to the memory of a House of Commons man, the Right Honourable Sir Winston Churchill, on the occasion of the one-hundredth anniversary of his birth and requests Mr. Speaker to convey the text of this resolution to his widow, the Lady Clementine Churchill.

End urged for ex-servicemen's preferential treatment for federal jobs

Public Service Commission Chairman John J. Carson recommended to a joint Senate-Commons committee on December 3 that former servicemen and Royal Canadian Mounted Police personnel should not receive preferential treatment when applying for employment in the Public Service of Canada. In proposing many changes in public service laws, Mr. Carson said that all citizens should have equal chances for federal jobs.

Under the Public Service Employment Act, war veterans, members of the Armed Forces and the RCMP get preference when applying for positions, all other qualifications being equal.

"Our feeling in this matter is that preference is no longer consistent with today's intent of the merit principle and that all Canadians should enjoy an equal opportunity to qualify for and be appointed to positions in their federal Public Service," said Mr. Carson.

Citizen qualification only

"Our only qualification on this score would be that Canadian citizenship continue to be a preference — the only preference." Mr. Carson said that this was "perfectly reasonable" and was the practice of almost all other countries in hiring staff for public service.

CP remembers "Roaring Twenties"

There's a flight back to the "Roaring Twenties" for passengers who travel on Canadian Pacific Airlines' (CP Air) Boeing 747 between Vancouver and Toronto. The upper lounge of the giant jet is decorated with railway mementoes of the Twenties, when railroading was at its zenith and, to complete the atmosphere, stewardesses wear the famous "flapper" clothing of the era. Stewardess Sabena Frederick is seen here in the 747's lounge modelling the dress which has become an instant success with CP Air passengers. The cigarette, however, is taboo with cabin staff on duty.

