

FOREWORD

Students of Canadian history will welcome the publication of this volume of Parliamentary Debates for the years 1867 and 1868. This is the first volume in a series, undertaken as a Centennial project under the auspices of the Library of Parliament covering the years 1867 to 1874.

During these formative years of Confederation the Parliamentary Debates were not officially reported, and the absence from the public record of the major speeches and debates in Parliament during that important period has been a conspicuous and frustrating gap in the historical source material on the early years of Confederation.

We are indeed fortunate to have, as director of this complex project, the distinguished historian, Professor P. B. Waite of Dalhousie University. Professor Waite has brought to it a capacity for painstaking research and a dedication that has brought this first volume to completion well before the anniversary date of our nationhood. Without the active support and collaboration of the Parliamentary Librarian, Mr. Erik J. Spicer, and his associates, this project would not have been possible, and we are very much in their debt.

The Honourable SYDNEY J. SMITH
Speaker of the Senate

The Honourable LUCIEN LAMOUREUX, Q.C., M.P.
Speaker of the House of Commons

Joint Chairmen
Joint Committee on the Library
of Parliament

Ottawa, Canada, April 1967