

THE SENATE

Tuesday, October 16, 1951

The Senate met at 8 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

THE LATE LIAQUAT ALI KHAN

TRIBUTE TO HIS MEMORY

Hon. Wishart McL. Robertson: Honourable senators will remember that a little over a year ago we had a visit from Liaquat Ali Khan, the Prime Minister of Pakistan. Today we learned with regret of his assassination. As an evidence of our sympathy to the people of a member country of the Commonwealth and as a tribute to the memory of their late Prime Minister, I ask the honourable members of this house to stand in silence for sixty seconds.

The senators rose and stood in silence.

EMERGENCY SITTINGS OF THE SENATE

MOTION

Hon. Mr. Robertson moved:

That, for the duration of the present session of Parliament, should an emergency arise during any adjournment of the Senate, which would in the opinion of the Honourable the Speaker warrant that the Senate meet prior to the time set forth in the motion for such adjournment, the Honourable the Speaker be authorized to notify honourable senators at their addresses registered with the Clerk of the Senate to meet at a time earlier than that set out in the motion for such adjournment, and non-receipt by any one or more honourable senators of such call shall not have any effect upon the sufficiency and validity thereof.

Honourable senators will recall that this is the customary motion which is moved at the beginning of each session, in case an adjournment takes place.

The motion was agreed to.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

ADDRESS IN REPLY

The Senate proceeded to the consideration of His Excellency the Governor General's Speech at the opening of the Fifth Session of the Twenty-First Parliament of Canada.

Hon. Thomas Vien moved (*Translation*):

That the following Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General of Canada:

To His Excellency Field Marshal The Right Honourable Viscount Alexander of Tunis, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Companion of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, Companion of the Distinguished Service Order, upon

whom has been conferred the Decoration of the Military Cross, one of His Majesty's Aides-de-Camp General, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief in and over Canada.

May it Please Your Excellency:

We, His Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Senate of Canada, in parliament assembled, beg leave to offer our humble thanks to Your Excellency for the gracious speech which Your Excellency has addressed to both houses of parliament.

He said:

Honourable Senators: I wish to thank the Right Honourable Prime Minister of Canada and the Honourable Leader of the Government in the Senate who have bestowed upon me the honour of proposing the Address in reply to the speech from the throne. I thank them personally and on behalf of the good people of the district of De Lorimier, whom I am proud to represent in this Chamber and to whom, to a great extent, I owe the privilege which is mine at this moment.

This senatorial district includes the cities of St. John and Iberville as well as a few surrounding parishes. The city of St. John is a hive of industry and trade, while Iberville is the typical provincial town, with its aristocracy and middle class. Farmers make up the population of the adjoining parishes; the soil is fertile and the inhabitants prosperous. This district was opened up three centuries ago. You will find there descendants of old manorial and landed families which, under the French régime, were the glory of the colony and, since Canada was formally ceded, have become factors of stability. I pay tribute to these industrious and thrifty people, respectful of the laws of Church and State, who dwell in this delightful corner of Quebec, of which the province is so justly proud.

May it please Your Honour: Iberville and St. Johns, as you know, are situated on opposite sides of the Richelieu river. That region takes pride in the fact that you were born there, and this is an additional reason for the high esteem in which I hold that area.

Honourable senators, I should like to point out a few significant events which have taken place since parliament adjourned last June.

Let me first mention the anxiety which we all felt upon hearing of the grave illness which struck His Majesty the King; the fervent prayers which we, together with all the peoples of the Commonwealth and of the civilized world, offered up to Heaven, and our gratification upon hearing the good news of the King's convalescence. Honourable senators, I know I am faithfully conveying your feelings when I offer to His Majesty our