

THE SENATE

Monday, September 25, 1961

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

Prayers.

EMERGENCY SITTING

SENATORS RECALLED

**Hon. Walter M. Aseltine:** Before we commence our regular business I would like to explain to honourable senators the reason for recalling them to attend a sitting of the Senate tonight. It will be seen that the Orders of the Day are for Tuesday, September 26, 1961. When the Senate adjourned on September 14 last it was thought unlikely that any legislation would come to us from the other place before tomorrow. In the meantime, however, a number of bills were passed in the other place, and it became necessary for honourable senators to be called back to duty a day early. This was done under authority of the motion dealing with emergency sittings, which was passed on December 13, 1960, and which reads as follows:

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.

The required notice was sent out to honourable senators. That is the reason we are meeting one day prior to the day to which the Senate had adjourned.

SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION SYSTEM

INSTALLATION IN CHAMBER

**Hon. W. Ross Macdonald:** Honourable senators, before we commence our business may I say that upon entering the Senate this evening I noticed that two booths have been built into the ante-room of the chamber. I presume these are to be used in connection

with the simultaneous translation system. May I inquire whether the system is now in operation?

**Hon. Mr. Hnatyshyn:** Yes, it is working.

**The Hon. the Speaker:** I understand it is working now, and that it was working on September 14 when the Senate reconvened after the summer recess.

**Hon. Mr. Macdonald (Brantford):** Where is the equipment?

**The Hon. the Speaker:** It is well concealed.

**Hon. Mr. Aseltine:** I explained the matter fully to honourable senators present on an earlier occasion. When the switch key at knee level is in the "up" position the language heard is English, and when the key is put down the language heard is French. However, the earphone must be used in connection with the apparatus.

**Hon. Mr. Macdonald (Brantford):** Does the system also serve the Press Gallery in the Senate?

**Hon. Arthur W. Roebuck:** I think the reason that the installation of the system may have escaped the notice of the honourable Leader of the Opposition (Hon. Mr. Macdonald) is the fact that the work in the lobby has been so beautifully done. The carving, the staining of the boards, and so on, is done so skilfully that one may enter the Senate chamber without observing what has been done.

I would like to pay tribute to the workmanship in those two booths at the front of the chamber to which my friend has referred. Many of us have come to believe that craftsmanship is a thing of the past, because so much work is done on a quantity production basis by machines, although with great accuracy and utility. However, the day of the craftsman is not yet past, as evidenced by this fine example of high-class workmanship of the masterly, artistic type. I commend to all a view of the workmanship in our lobby.

CIVIL SERVICE ACT

FIRST READING

**The Hon. the Speaker** informed the Senate that a message had been received from the House of Commons with Bill C-71, respecting the Civil Service of Canada.

Bill read first time.

SECOND READING

**The Hon. the Speaker:** Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read the second time?