

Hon. Lionel Choquette: The answer to the honourable gentleman's inquiry is as follows:

1. No.
2. Answered by No. 1.
3. No.
4. Answered by No. 3.

Hon. Mr. Pouliot: It is the answer I gave last session.

Hon. Mr. Choquette: There are further details contained in the envelope which the honourable senator might not have anticipated.

Hon. Mr. Pouliot: As always, I am ahead of my time. Thank you very much.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

MOTION FOR ADDRESS IN REPLY—DEBATE CONTINUED

The Senate resumed from yesterday consideration of His Excellency the Governor General's speech at the opening of the session, and the motion of Hon. Mr. Haig, seconded by Hon. Mr. Fournier (Madawaska-Restigouche), for an address in reply thereto.

Hon. Salter A. Hayden: Honourable senators, when the new senators came into the Senate I personally welcomed them. When I saw His Honour the Speaker shortly after his appointment, since he is a very old friend of mine, I congratulated him. He is doing precisely the excellent job that I felt most confident he would do. At this stage, in relation to the newly-appointed senators, that is all I have to say that might come within the description of complete recommendation for what they have said since they became members of this chamber.

The debate so far on the motion for an address has taken a different course from that of debates on the address in previous years while I have been a member of the Senate. If we have ground rules—and I thought that maybe we had a few—they seem to have been completely scrapped. Having regard to the tenor of the speeches, particularly those made by the newly-appointed senators, I would regard this debate on the motion for an address as having no rules other than one to the effect that it is open hunting season. If I have a quota of ducks in this open hunting season, then I hope I am able to get a few today.

As I regard what has been said, it appears that the newly-appointed senators are a special task force to whom has been assigned two chief duties. One is to see to it that the image of the Prime Minister is put on the highest pedestal that human ingenuity could possibly construct.

Hon. Mr. Grosart: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Hayden: The second is to point out to the people of Canada that, whether or not they feel it or believe it, they are having the best time of their lives now.

Well, that is a large order but, this being the space age, these senators who took off on their tasks and got into orbit faster than anything ever has at Cape Canaveral, and then having at least established a position, on cloud nine, they looked down from that lofty eminence and told us of the wonders of the world so far as Canada is concerned.

It is true that it is difficult for us to follow all that, for we who are on the ground in Canada, mingling with all the people and listening to all sources of information, have not had made available to us as yet the sights that must have been unfolded to them from that lofty position. However, I would point out to them that sightseeing and a special viewing of that kind, coupled with skilled oratory, is still not enough. There should be some attempt made at stating fact—fact in a form which can truly be accepted as fact—and I hope to indicate in a few particulars where that fact is missing.

I am sorry the honourable senator from Carleton (Hon. Mr. O'Leary) is not in his place because I want to say a few things about his remarks. After he had finished his speech I told him that every time I have heard him speak—and I have heard him often; I am a great admirer of his—I have had to dig my feet firmly into the ground to keep from being carried away by the force and spell of his oratory. However, I succeeded in not being carried away the other day, but I suggest that possibly the orator himself was carried away because—the honourable senator from Fredericton (Hon. Mrs. Fergusson) developed this when she spoke, coupled with a criticism of Mr. Walter Gordon—the honourable senator from Carleton took the figures of the gross national product as projected to the end of this year, compared that projection with the one Mr. Gordon made in his report in 1955, and pointed out that really Canada is free-wheeling at a much swifter rate than even that which Mr. Gordon thought would be a good rate. The honourable senator took the 1955 projection, and said that we had now arrived at about the point where Mr. Gordon thought we would be in 1965.

But one little fact was overlooked. If one is going to make comparisons then one has to make them as between figures that are related. The projection made in 1955 in relation to subsequent years was in constant 1955 dollars, and that sum of money was being compared by the honourable senator from Carleton (Hon. Mr. O'Leary) with the 1962 figures. He might just as well have compared