

Prime Minister was able to arrange that this historic ceremony should take place on the occasion of this visit.

I shall defer until the appropriate time my observations on the contents of Her Majesty's speech from the throne, but I do wish to say a word about the gracious and moving speech the Queen addressed last evening by radio and television to the people of Canada.

The pride of all Canadians in our country was, I am sure, enhanced when Her Majesty referred to herself with such evident pride as the Queen of Canada, and particularly when she reminded us that it would be as Queen of Canada that she would visit the United States of America within the next few days. For many of us those words carried our minds back some 18 years to the first visit of a reigning sovereign to the United States, a visit which prepared the way for the ready acceptance today of the position that the sovereign, in visiting our great neighbouring nation, makes such a visit primarily as the head of the Canadian nation.

(Translation):

The grace and ease with which Her Majesty has addressed us in the native tongue of some five million of her Canadian subjects has warmed the hearts of those who, for more than two centuries, have realized that their traditions, their culture and their language are an ever-growing source of pride to all Canadians and, in the eyes of our gracious sovereign, are part and parcel of our national heritage.

(Text):

From the moment of the accession of our Queen to the throne she has displayed on all occasions those qualities which made her late father, King George VI, so universally loved and respected by his subjects throughout the empire and commonwealth. We have all admired her devotion to duty, her high ideals of family life, and her firm attachment to the finest traditions of the commonwealth over which she presides.

As head of the commonwealth Her Majesty symbolizes the principles of freedom, self-government and mutual understanding which unite the members of the commonwealth and make the commonwealth itself a great force for peace in the world.

We on this side of the house are happy to join in the humble address conveying to Her Majesty the loyalty and love of this house and of all her Canadian subjects, their joy in welcoming the presence in Canada of Her Majesty and His Royal Highness the Prince Philip, and the profound gratitude of the nation to Her Majesty for graciously opening

Appointment of Chairman of Committees parliament and making of this day, as the motion itself states, an historic occasion for all Canadians.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, may I suggest that in putting the motion we stand and sing.

Whereupon the members of the house rose and sang

God Save the Queen.

Motion agreed to.

INTERNAL ECONOMY COMMISSION

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister) presented the following message from His Excellency the Governor General:

The Governor General transmits to the House of Commons a certified copy of an order in council appointing the Hon. Donald Methuen Fleming, Minister of Finance, the Hon. Leon Balcer, Solicitor General, the Hon. George Clyde Nowlan, Minister of National Revenue and the Hon. Ellen Louks Fairclough, Secretary of State, to act with the Speaker of the House of Commons as commissioners for the purposes and under the provisions of chapter 143 of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1952, intitled: An act respecting the House of Commons.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES OF THE WHOLE

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister) moved:

That Henri Courtemanche, Esquire, member for the electoral district of Labelle, be appointed chairman of committees of the whole house.

He said: The hon. member for Labelle (Mr. Courtemanche) served in the previous parliament and he is a member again of this parliament. He has unusual ability and capacity and I know that if appointed he will discharge the responsibilities of this office with honour to himself and to this house.

Motion agreed to.

APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES OF THE WHOLE

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister) moved:

That Arza Clair Casselman, Esquire, member for the electoral district of Grenville-Dundas, be appointed deputy chairman of committees of the whole house.

He said: The hon. member to whom I refer has been in the House of Commons continuously since 1925. He was first elected in the year 1921 and resigned at that time. He returned in 1925 and has been a member of the House of Commons since. I also hope that his nomination will receive the approval of the house.