

The Honourable the Speaker of the Senate then said:

Mr. Speaker:

I am commanded by His Excellency the Administrator to declare to you that he freely confides in the duty and attachment of the House of Commons to Her Majesty's Person and Government and, not doubting that their proceedings will be conducted with wisdom, temper and prudence, he grants and upon all occasions will recognize and allow their constitutional privileges.

I am commanded also to assure you that the Commons shall have ready access to His Excellency upon all reasonable occasions, and that their proceedings as well as your words and actions, will constantly receive from him the most favourable construction.

And the House being returned:

Mr. Speaker reported that the House had been in the Senate Chamber, and that he had, in their names and on their behalf, made the usual claim of privileges, which His Excellency had been pleased to confirm to them.

Mr. Pearson, seconded by Mr. Chevrier, by leave of the House, introduced Bill C-1, An Act respecting the Administration of Oaths of Office, which was read the first time.

Mr. Speaker reported that, when the House did attend His Excellency the Administrator this day in the Senate Chamber, His Excellency was pleased to make a Speech to both Houses of Parliament, and to prevent mistakes, he had obtained a copy, which is as follows:

*Honourable Members of the Senate:*

*Members of the House of Commons:*

I welcome you to the first session of the twenty-sixth Parliament of Canada.

I am honoured today to act for His Excellency the Governor-General, whose place in the respect of the Canadian people is second only to that of Her Majesty the Queen and whose early recovery to full health is sincerely wished by us all. I know that all members of this Parliament would wish to join in expressing to Her Majesty the sentiments of loyalty which were recently conveyed to her by the Prime Minister.

You are deliberating the course of our country in times of great change throughout the world. These are times that test old virtues. They are times that open up new opportunities. Familiar ways of thought and action are becoming less certain guides. Many old paths are no longer open to us. The task before us is to seek out, with wisdom and imagination, those new paths that will lead us surely forward.