

Hon. Mr. Pouliot: On division.

Hon. Mr. Vaillancourt: On division.

Motion agreed to.

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. Harry A. Willis: Honourable senators, this is my maiden speech in this august assembly. As a senator from the province of Ontario, I must first of all pay tribute to the late Senator Fraser. I did not know him personally, although in the realm of provincial politics in Ontario our paths often crossed. I join with those who have already spoken in conveying to the late senator's family condolences on his passing.

My second tribute must be to you, Mr. Speaker, whom I have known for many years, and of whom I can speak most favourably. I congratulate you upon your attainment to the high office you now occupy. Those of us who were present in this chamber on the opening day of Parliament, knowing that you had but a few days to prepare, were delighted by your performance. If it is permissible to do so, I should like to pay tribute to your lovely and charming wife who, together with you, fulfils the social amenities in the highest taste.

The Leader of the Government (Hon. Mr. Brooks)—the Government which I support—told us last week that he would be unable to be present this evening. I want to congratulate him *in absentia* upon his elevation as Leader of the Government in the Senate.

I congratulate my old associate from Ottawa East (Hon. Mr. Choquette), who has risen to the role of deputy leader, which he fills most admirably.

I pay tribute to the Leader of the Opposition (Hon. Mr. Macdonald, Brantford), who is an old friend of mine, though different in politics. He and I have been members of the Board of Governors of McMaster University for many years. I wish him well, and I hope he remains in his present position for a long, long time. I want him to know that I sincerely appreciate the courtesies he and his family have extended to me.

I come now to the senators from Ontario. I cannot refer to them all, but one I should like to refer to in particular is the honourable

senator from Toronto-Trinity (Hon. Mr. Roebuck). I remember him as Attorney General of Ontario under a Liberal Government. As such, he introduced many measures in the Ontario legislature which were highly beneficial to the province. Perhaps I should have mentioned my friend, the honourable senator from Toronto (Hon. Mr. Hayden) first, for his was a prior appointment. He and I have known each other for many years.

I would also mention the senator from Toronto (Hon. Mr. Campbell), who is absent this evening. I am privileged to serve on certain boards with him.

Next I would mention the senator from Toronto-Spadina (Hon. Mr. Croll), a man of independent spirit, whom I have always admired.

It gives me pleasure also to speak of the senator from Ottawa (Hon. Mr. Lambert), who is a long-standing acquaintance of mine, and was one of the first to greet me when I came to this chamber.

May I say also that the senator from Ottawa West (Hon. Mr. Connolly) did me a certain courtesy not long ago which I appreciated most deeply; there are not many who would have done for me what he did, and I want to express my appreciation to him in this chamber.

I come now to one of the senators who is newer here than I—I am one or two up on him—namely, the senator from Gormley (Hon. Mr. McCutcheon). He and I are good friends of long standing, for we were associated together in earlier years at law school at Osgoode Hall. The Government could not have appointed a more masterful financier than he. It is said that he can read and analyze a financial statement or the estimates tabled in the house with the same scissor-like precision that Senator Sullivan performs operations. I congratulate Senator McCutcheon, as a member of the Government, and I also congratulate the Government on his inclusion.

Senator Sullivan, who sits on this side, as all honourable senators know, is an eminent ear specialist. I compliment him on being first in his field. As many honourable senators know, he won his laurels in athletics as a member of Canada's Olympic championship hockey team in 1928.

I do not know whether jokes are permissible in this chamber, but if they are not I am sure His Honour the Speaker will call me to order. But I want to say to Senator Sullivan that I am reminded of a certain lawyer who sent out bills for services on any and every pretext. He met a client one day on the street who said to him, arbitrarily: "It's a fine day—I'm telling you, not asking you."