

THE SENATE

Wednesday, January 12, 1955

The Senate met at 3 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers.

Routine proceedings.

STANDING COMMITTEES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF SELECTION

Hon. Mr. Taylor, for Hon. Mr. Macdonald, presented the report of the Committee of Selection.

The report was read by the Clerk Assistant as follows:

The Committee of Selection appointed to nominate senators to serve on the several standing committees for the present session, have the honour to report herewith the following list of senators selected by them to serve on the Standing Committees on Divorce and Banking and Commerce, namely:

DIVORCE

The Honourable Senators Aseltine, Baird, Barbour, Bradley, Burchill, Euler, Farquhar, Farris, Fergusson, Gershaw, Golding, *Haig, Hawkins, Hodges, Horner, Howard, Howden, Kinley, *Macdonald, Roebuck, Ross and Stevenson. (20).

**Ex officio* member.

BANKING AND COMMERCE

The Honourable Senators Aseltine, Baird, Beaubien, Bouffard, Burchill, Campbell, Crerar, Davies, Dessureault, Euler, Fallis, Farris, Gershaw, Gouin, *Haig, Hardy, Hawkins, Hayden, Horner, Howard, Howden, Hugessen, King, Kinley, Lambert, *Macdonald, MacKinnon, McDonald, McGuire, McIntyre, McKeen, McLean, Nicol, Paterson, Pirie, Pratt, Quinn, Reid, Roebuck, Taylor, Vaillancourt, Vien, Wilson, Wood and Woodrow. (43)

**Ex officio* member.

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, when shall this report be taken into consideration?

Hon. Mr. Taylor: With leave of the house, I move that the report be concurred in now.

The motion was agreed to.

APPOINTMENT

Hon. Mr. Taylor: Honourable senators, with leave of the Senate I move:

That the Senators mentioned in the report of the Committee of Selection as having been chosen to serve on the Standing Committees on Divorce and Banking and Commerce during the present session, be and they are hereby appointed to form part of and constitute the said committees to inquire into and report upon such matters as may be referred to them from time to time.

The motion was agreed to.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

MOTION FOR ADDRESS IN REPLY—
DEBATE ADJOURNED

The Senate proceeded to consideration of His Excellency the Governor General's Speech at the opening of the Second Session of the Twenty-second Parliament.

Hon. Nancy Hodges moved:

That the following Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General of Canada:

To His Excellency the Right Honourable Vincent Massey, Member of the Order of the Companions of Honour, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada. May it Please Your Excellency:

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Senate of Canada, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to offer our humble thanks to Your Excellency for the gracious speech which Your Excellency has addressed to both houses of Parliament.

She said: Honourable senators, I am deeply conscious of the honour of being asked to move the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. Perhaps my sense of privilege is enhanced by the fact that I noticed in looking through the Speech from the Throne that those who prepared it must have had British Columbia very much in mind, for many of the things that are in it and much of the legislation which is formulated, is not only of general interest to Canada as a whole but is of peculiar and deep concern to the province of British Columbia. First of all in that category comes a suggestion that there are to be amendments to the Electricity and Fluid Exportation Act and a measure to control works which affect the normal flow of rivers which cross the international boundary, for the purpose of ensuring that natural resources are developed in the best interests of the Canadian public.

This, as most honourable senators know, has reference to the recent controversy which has been going on in British Columbia over the Kaiser Dam proposal which, of course, would affect the waters of the Columbia River and give considerable benefits to United States interests. The Government of British Columbia has not made a final statement on this proposition, so I have to depend on statements which have been made by the honourable Minister of Lands and Forests of British Columbia, Mr. Sommers. Although I have not personally seen any changes in the original statement, I understand the honourable minister has modified it. From statements that were originally made by the minister, it was clear that the project involved the construction, near Castlegar and about twenty miles north of the boundary, of a \$25 million or \$30 million dam designed to store and regulate some 3 million acre feet of water. The intention would be to release this water during periods of low flow