

so loved by all who knew him. I am sure that you will all agree that my aspiration is both noble and worthy.

Honourable senators, although my acquaintance with His Honour the Speaker has been relatively brief, it did not take me long to appreciate why he should have been so selected to grace the Chair. May I offer him my sincere congratulations.

The honourable Leader of the Opposition (Hon. Mr. Macdonald, Brantford), is not unknown to me, although I realize I am a comparative stranger to him. One with such a record of service in public life could scarcely escape the attention of an aspiring politician of many years or, for that matter, of anyone in this nation who is interested in public affairs. I wish him continued good health, and many more fruitful years of such service. I join with those who have preceded me in this debate in tendering him my deepest and most sincere sympathy in the recent irreparable loss of his beloved wife.

When I refer to the honourable the Leader of the Government (Hon. Mr. Brooks), who is, I regret, unavoidably absent today, I know that honourable senators opposite, and all honourable senators not from the maritime or Atlantic provinces will forgive my lighting up with pride when I recall our associations in days past. During the honourable senator's sojourn as a more active politician, during his memorable reign as Minister of Veterans' Affairs, I came to know, love and respect him. My ardour is presently undiminished; as a matter of fact, nothing could make me happier than continuing to serve under his wise guidance.

The mover of the motion for an address in reply to the Speech from the Throne (Hon. Mr. Haig) and the seconder (Hon. Mr. Fournier, Madawaska-Restigouche), truly distinguished themselves and thereby brought great distinction to themselves, this chamber and their respective provinces.

The honourable senator from Madawaska-Restigouche (Hon. Mr. Fournier), being a colleague from the other place, is perhaps the first of the new senators to whom I should express my delight on being his classmate here. This same expression of comradeship and pleasure is equally extended to the other six new senators.

I regret that the honourable and gracious senator from Fredericton (Hon. Mrs. Ferguson) is unavoidably absent from the chamber today. I find myself concurring at least in part with some of her remarks made in this chamber on October 25, more specifically where she addressed herself to the cause of some of our Maritime problems and the various attempts made towards solutions.

Without seeking to labour regional thinking, I feel inclined to repeat and, therefore, quote the honourable senator when she said:

The people from the provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island remember that in the days before Confederation we had a booming economy based on our free trade with our New England neighbours which we lost when, as a member of the Canadian Confederation, we had to submit to tariffs put on for the benefit of the industrial provinces of Central Canada.

I think that for my purpose here I need not comment further; instead, I will move on to the honourable senator's reference to her attendance at the annual meeting of A.P.E.C. held recently in her home town of Fredericton. After her explanation and detailed remarks, and also those made by the honourable senator from Murray Harbour (Hon. Mrs. Inman) in 1959, to which the honourable senator referred, I am certain this house is pretty well informed as to the aims and objectives of this Atlantic Provinces Economic Council, or A.P.E.C., as it is better known.

Relating her remarks to the Throne Speech I was happy to note that she, as a member of A.P.E.C. warmly endorses, as does the executive of that body, the intention of the Government to establish an Atlantic Development Board for the purpose of advising "on measures and projects that will promote the economic development of the Atlantic region of Canada."

In a national sense, perhaps this Atlantic Development Board might be considered secondary to, but certainly complementary with, the National Economic Development Board outlined in the Throne Speech. I think it obvious that there is a distinct relation between the two, with a special recognition of the several handicaps of the Atlantic provinces, and I believe we can all assume that the Atlantic provinces and the country as a whole, will benefit when both have been set up. I have no doubt but that the creation of the Atlantic Development Board will come about soon and that the personnel will be the best that can be found, namely, "individuals with wisdom, foresight and experience," a hope expressed by the honourable senator from Fredericton.

In addition to these important announcements contained in the Throne Speech, I note from the October A.P.E.C. Newsletter, volume 6, number 8, that this organization has considered noteworthy and of significant interest to the Atlantic provinces, and to the country generally, quite a lengthy list of items. Therefore, I shall start at the beginning and state that both the honourable senator from