

which is admired even in judges. He was fair. He was just. He had good judgment. And he can be held up as a model administrator to all those who come after him in that high office.

I could say much about the memberships of the various committees to be established, but I will only say one thing now. There are eight vacancies to be filled in the Senate. But there are really other vacancies, and honourable senators know about them. I refer to vacancies created by the absence from the Senate of honourable members who come here for the opening or for prorogation of Parliament. When Her Majesty opened Parliament last week I noticed one of our colleagues, a man whom I meet very often on the street, who was in this chamber for the first time in two years. He came to save his seat. There are others who come for short visits. They may have good reasons. I do not ask for any sanction against them but I do not see why their names are kept on the membership lists of active committees.

I do not make these comments to be hard or unpleasant, but it seems to me there are members of this house who have not got a proper sense of proportion. Some people are sentimental enough to say of them: "Well, they are unfortunate. They came here once but they could not come again for some reason." They should try to follow the good example set by the honourable senator from St. Albert (Hon. Mr. Blais), who comes here on crutches and is very assiduous in his Senate duties. Others could do the same, and if some cannot come the thing to do is to strike their names from the committee lists. It would not hurt them and it would relieve their consciences. I presume that when they are away from the Senate they are still interested in our proceedings. They cannot forget us and they may say, "I wonder how such and such a committee is doing today?" Well, if their names were stricken from the lists of the committees in a gentle manner they would not have that worry.

Honourable senators, I hope you will consider these remarks in the same spirit that I have made them, not to cause trouble to anyone but to improve the efficiency of the Senate. I said last week that I had the highest regard for all honourable senators, including our unseen colleagues. I do have the highest regard for you, but I want the Senate to give the full measure of its efficiency, and that is why I hope you will give favourable consideration to my suggestion to improve the standard of the Senate by distributing the work as evenly as possible between all our honourable colleagues.

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: Question!

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, is it your pleasure that this motion be now adopted?

Hon. Mr. Pouliot: On division!

The motion was agreed to, and the second report of the Committee of Selection was agreed to, on division.

NOTICES OF MOTION

Hon. Mr. Haig: Honourable senators, with leave I move, seconded by the Honourable Senator Aseltine, that the Senate revert to notices of motions.

The motion was agreed to, on division.

APPOINTMENT

Hon. Mr. Aseltine, for Hon. Mr. Haig, with leave of the Senate, moved:

That the senators mentioned in the report of the Committee of Selection as having been chosen to serve on the several standing committees during the present session, be and they are hereby appointed to form part of and constitute the several committees with which their respective names appear in said report, to inquire into and report upon such matters as may be referred to them from time to time, and that the Committee on Standing Orders be authorized to send for persons, papers and records whenever required; and also that the Committee on Internal Economy and Contingent Accounts have power, without special reference by the Senate, to consider any matter affecting the internal economy of the Senate, and such Committee shall report the result of such consideration to the Senate for action.

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: May I ask the mover of the motion if that is the usual motion made at this time?

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: It is the same motion that has been introduced at this time during the 24 years I have been here, and it is necessary for the purpose of carrying on the work of the Senate.

The motion was agreed to, on division.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING

SENATE MEMBERS

Hon. Mr. Aseltine, for Hon. Mr. Haig, with leave of the Senate, moved:

That a message be sent to the House of Commons by one of the Clerks at the Table, to inform that house that the Honourable Senators Barbour, Blais, Bouffard, Bradette, Bradley, Comeau, Davies, Euler, Isnor, McGrand, Nicol, Pearson, Savoie, Smith (Kamloops), Stambaugh, Turgeon and Wood, have been appointed a committee to superintend the printing of the Senate during the present session and to act on behalf of the Senate as members of a Joint Committee of both Houses on the subject of the Printing of Parliament.

The motion was agreed to.