

Senator Langlois: Or possibly from the closing of the first session which also took place yesterday.

[Later:]

ERROR IN ENGLISH TEXT OF SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Senator Greene: On a point of privilege, I should like to draw the attention of honourable senators to page 4 of the *Minutes of the Proceedings* of October 12, 1976, which purports to report the Speech from the Throne. The second paragraph reads as follows:

In a further effort to reduce the size of government as well as expand the range of opportunities for private enterprise, all federal programs will be reviewed to identify those government activities which could be transferred to the private sector without the quality of service to the public.

If honourable senators will check *Hansard* of yesterday's date, which correctly reports the Speech from the Throne, they will see that it should read: "... without reducing the quality of service to the public."

Senator Flynn: It is an obvious error.

Senator Greene: I think honourable senators will agree that that is a very serious error, and one which should not be permitted to be made permanent in our records.

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 session.

[Translation]

Hon. Paul H. Lucier moved, seconded by Hon. Irvine Barrow:

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

To His Excellency the Right Honourable Jules Léger, Chancellor and Principal Companion of the Order of Canada, Chancellor and Commander of the Order of Military Merit, holder of the Canadian Armed Forces decoration, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada.

May it please Your Excellency:

We, Her Majesty's most loyal and dutiful 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.

He said: Honourable senators, in introducing this motion I ask for your indulgence because it is the first time that I have the privilege to rise before you in this house.

The Speech from the Throne read yesterday by their Excellencies, Governor General Léger and Mrs. Léger, covers several major programs such as bilingualism, the fight against inflation, appropriate steps to help small businesses as well as

the creation of new jobs. However, all those initiatives will be useless unless we Canadians develop a positive attitude and stop destroying, as we have done in the past, everything governments try to do.

Government alone cannot accomplish much. No legislation will give results unless we realize that our action will determine whether we will win or lose by it and in that respect we try to create a better Canada.

The good intentions of the government to work in cooperation with the provinces as well as labour and business to develop initiatives to improve employee-employer relations will not be successful without the cooperation of all parties concerned.

We are privileged in these difficult times to have a determined Prime Minister who has the courage to do what must be done for the good of all Canadians. However, I must agree that no legislation will give results without the cooperation and the good will of each and every one of us.

● (1430)

[English]

Being fortunate enough to be honoured by appointment as the first senator to represent the Yukon, I would like to take this opportunity to help you better understand the Yukon and its people.

On August 17, 1896, George Carmacks scooped a pan of gravel from a small creek, panned it and found the bottom of the pan littered with small gold nuggets. The greatest gold rush in history was on. The word "Klondike" was heard all over the world.

The journey to Dawson was no easy task. People poured on to anything that floated in Vancouver or Seattle, made their way to Skagway, Alaska, and walked over the rugged Chilkoot Trail to Bennett, British Columbia, where rafts and boats were built for the 500-mile trip down the Yukon River. Getting to Dawson was very difficult, and only the very determined made it. Where only a few tents existed, there suddenly appeared a city of 30,000 people. In fact, Dawson was the largest city west of Winnipeg at the turn of the century. Dawson presently has a population of only 800. Parks Canada has recently revealed the framework of a very ambitious restoration program which will permanently secure the colourful history of the Gold Rush for further generations of Canadians.

Things were relatively quiet in the Yukon until World War II when Canada and the United States decided that for military purposes there should be a road linking Alaska and the Yukon. In a period of approximately 10 months a road was pushed through mountains and valleys, over creeks, rivers and swamps from Dawson Creek, British Columbia to Fairbanks, Alaska. This was 1,525 miles through absolute wilderness. It would take us twice that long just to do a feasibility study on it today, let alone build it!

Senator Croll: How true!

Senator Lucier: The Alaska Highway is a first-class, all-weather highway with approximately one-third of the total distance asphalt-surfaced.