

The Honourable Mr. Tanner, from the Standing Committee on Standing Orders, presented their First Report.

The same was then read by the Clerk as follows:

THE SENATE,

COMMITTEE ROOM No. 70,

FRIDAY, 28th February, 1919.

The Standing Committee on Standing Orders beg leave to make their First Report.

Your Committee recommend that their quorum be reduced to three (3) members. All which is respectfully submitted.

CHARLES TANNER,
Acting Chairman.

With leave of the Senate, it was

Ordered, That Rule 24a and h be suspended in respect to the said Report.

The said Report was then adopted.

Upon motion of the Hon. Sir James Lougheed, seconded by the Honourable Mr. Robertson, it was

Resolved, That the Senate of Canada accepts with sincere gratitude the Black Rod presented to it by the United Kingdom Branch of the Empire Parliamentary Association, recognizing the gift as an expression of the good feelings of the members of the Mother of Parliaments towards their colleagues in the Parliament of Canada and as a token of appreciation of their common efforts in the momentous events of the past few years, and that the engrossed scroll of presentation, including a list of subscribers, be entered upon the Journals of the Senate.

And, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the United Kingdom Branch of the Empire Parliamentary Association.

"On behalf of the Members of the House of Lords and Commons constituting the United Kingdom Branch of the Empire Parliamentary Association we desire that the Honourable The Senate of the Dominion of Canada will accept the accompanying Black Rod to replace that which was lost on 3rd February, 1916, when the Houses of Parliament at Ottawa were destroyed by fire.

"We have already conveyed to our Brother Legislators in the Dominion of Canada our expressions of regret and sympathy for the losses sustained by them on the occasion of that great disaster.

"Our Members on learning of the destruction of the Black Rod in use in the Senate, requested leave to present the new Black Rod to the Senate of Canada.

"We know that our action cannot restore the traditions historically associated with the previous Black Rod which had been in use ever since the days of the Legislative Council of old Lower Canada and before the great Dominion of Canada was constituted by the Union of all the Provinces.

"It is our fervent hope that the Black Rod, which we now ask the Senate of Canada to accept, will play its part in the Parliamentary procedure of Canada through many centuries of peace, progress and prosperity.

(Sgd.)

FINLAY, *Lord Chancellor.*

JAMES W. LOWTHER, *Speaker of the House of Commons.*

Joint-Presidents of the United Kingdom Branch of the Empire Parliamentary Association.

Palace of Westminster, 21st June, 1918.