

is our clear duty, one which rests upon all honourable senators, whether in or out of opposition, to scrutinize and criticize any government legislation that comes to us from the Commons. None of it can be said to have the will of the people behind it, except perhaps by guess or surmise. A minority government, as we know, has always a difficult task before it. Whatever bold declarations may be made by the Government that it will act as if it represented a majority of the people, it does not do so, and there is an ever-present possibility of compromise, even of principle.

Shakespeare has wisely said: "When clouds are seen, wise men put on their cloaks."

We must watch for all the things I have mentioned, and we will be duly watchful.

Hon. John J. Connolly: Honourable senators, let me at the outset thank and congratulate the mover and the seconder of the Address.

[Translation]

Senator Bourque had a most distinguished career as a representative for Outremont-St. John in the House of Commons. He was elected five times in a row in that same constituency. At the same time, he served his fellow citizens for 17 years as mayor of Outremont.

His career has been one of dedication seldom surpassed. It must be satisfying for him to find that those who know him best showed so many times their confidence in him.

We need in the Senate members who have had experience in the public affairs of the country. I thank him for the great contribution he made to the debates in this house.

[Text]

I thank Senator Aird for the sound and thoughtful speech he made, although it may be superfluous for me to do so having regard to the favourable press it has received.

Senator Aird is a relatively young man, and that fact alone is good enough reason for welcoming him to the Senate. However, there is more. He had a fine record of service with the Navy in the last war, and he also had a thorough academic training. He has had a most successful professional and business career, and has followed worthily in the footsteps of a distinguished father and grandfather, both of whom were outstanding in the business and community life of Toronto. All these things might have been sufficient to warrant his summons to the Senate. He realized, however, that if Parliament is to function as it should in these days, the infrastructure of political parties must be

strengthened. Research, communications, and competent people to work in these fields responsibly and intelligently are basic requirements. He has been active in this area.

Parliament is a political place. Its work influences the lives of people deeply, as much as do the schools and universities and, in some respects, as much as do the churches. We are beyond the frontier now in Canada. Parliament and political parties can use the capacity of all men like Senator Aird. I am sure the Senate will be a better place because of his being here.

At this stage I feel it is appropriate to review the work done by the Senate in the Second Session of the Twenty-Sixth Parliament, the session which has just closed. In that session some 42 bills were received from the House of Commons, two of these being private members' public bills. These 42 bills were studied and in due time were passed and received Royal Assent.

In addition, the Senate initiated 48 bills. Thirty of these were private measures which were passed, and 13 were Government bills, which also were passed. Perhaps the 13 Government bills introduced here were a record for one session. As honourable senators know, public bills cannot be introduced in this chamber if they involve an expenditure of money. Such bills require the resolution stage of consideration in the other place before Parliament can deal with them. In addition, of course, there are measures of important Government policy which the ministers in the other place usually want to introduce in their own house, even if there are no financial implications. This is understandable.

I want to assure the Senate that I am ever alert to the desirability of introducing Government measures here and, within the limits imposed upon us, I think I can say that I have been able to get every bill available.

In addition to the measures I have mentioned which will find their place in the statute books, the Senate last session approved six major proposals by way of resolution. All these involved substantial debate here. They were:

1. The Peace-keeping Force for Cyprus under the aegis of the United Nations.
2. The treaty with the United States for the development of the Columbia River.
3. The I.L.O. Convention on Discrimination in Employment.