

in hydro development, in Senator Edgar Fournier; a hard working ex-member of Parliament, in Senator Clement O'Leary; and an outstanding fruit grower and exporter from the province of Nova Scotia, in Senator Welch. These gentlemen are all able and well-equipped to make major contributions to our work and to our debates.

We miss Senator Thomas Farquhar and Senator John T. Haig, who resigned a short time ago because of ill health. You all knew these two fine gentlemen. We join the honourable Leader of the Opposition (Hon. Mr. Macdonald, Brantford), in the sincere wish, which he so eloquently expressed in his speech of the other day, that "they will continue to live in comfort, without pain, despite their poor health, in the years to come, and over those years we shall be thinking of them."

I join the honourable Leader of the Opposition in congratulating Honourable Senator Cameron on his receiving the Golden Jubilee Award from the University of Alberta, which was certainly well-deserved.

It is appropriate, while we are extending congratulations, to refer to the great honour which has come to the honourable senator from North York (Hon. Mr. Sullivan). He has been elected President of the American Otological Society, the leading ear surgical society of the world and, in addition, has been made an honorary member of the Canadian Otological Society, an honour which I understand is shared by only three other men in the world. I believe that to be president of the American society is looked on as being one step lower than receiving the Nobel Prize. We heartily congratulate our genial Senator Sullivan.

Honourable senators, I am grateful to all of you for kind remarks and good wishes to me in this role as Leader of the Government. Particularly, I am indebted to the honourable Leader of the Opposition (Hon. Mr. Macdonald, Brantford) for his generous words and for the co-operation and amity he has extended to me to date in the session. I had, of course, expected nothing else from this most gracious gentleman, as we all know the Leader of the Opposition to be, and especially from an old friend and comrade, from 1935, when we were in the House of Commons, to this day.

At this time I wish to join Your Honour in an expression of sincere sympathy—and I am sure I speak for all honourable senators—to Senator Ross Macdonald on the tragedy which has come to him and his family in the loss of his dear and lovely wife who for many years has been a kind and a good friend to all of us.

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I look forward confidently to a continuance of the amicable relations that obtained between the Leader of the Opposition and my predecessor. I think we both appreciate that the need for cool heads and calm judgment here is all the greater in a session when tempers in other forums will be shorter even than usual.

Honourable senators, I am deeply conscious that I follow in the footsteps of exceedingly able men in the post of Leader of the Government. I hope that in some small degree I can measure up to the standard of excellence which is the legacy from the honourable Leader of the Opposition (Hon. Mr. Macdonald, Brantford), the Honourable Mr. Robertson and the Honourable Mr. Aseltine, who are still my colleagues in the Senate.

I am indeed humble as I cast memory's eye upon the list of distinguished and able parliamentarians who over the years have occupied this role. In other days it was the seat of Arthur Meighen, whose deft imagery and eloquent phrases still linger in this chamber. Here stood the great Dandurand of precise logic and honed argument. This old room was host to many of the chieftains of our history. It is with pride and humility that we hold today, in our turn, the customs and high standards which they have passed to us.

Honourable senators, the first paragraphs of the Speech from the Throne remind us how important are the links which bind together the members of the Commonwealth. Since the last session of Parliament we have been host to His Royal Highness, the Duke of Edinburgh, and to Her Royal Highness, the Princess Royal. In the past four months we have welcomed four new self-governing members of the Commonwealth, strengthening one of the greatest associations of nations that the world has ever known under a common spirit and tradition, regardless of race or creed. Honourable senators, no one knows better than we do how firm are the bonds that bind us. We have fought side by side in war. We have through many generations walked arm in arm in peace with the older members of the Commonwealth, and we hope to do so with the newer ones. Only those who cannot understand this unusual filial trust that stretches across vast continents and every sea and into every clime can make the mistake of looking upon a family conference as a family quarrel. We have conducted negotiations in the Commonwealth in other days much more difficult than any that face us now and have always emerged from our compromises even stronger than before.

While we look abroad to our friends in this commonwealth family, and strengthen our ties with other nations of the world, we shall