

Senator Frith: Honourable senators, I think that Senator McElman is quite right.

Senator Phillips: Honourable senators, I was asked a question by Honourable Senator McElman. I am not aware of the potato stumping practice on Prince Edward Island. I have never participated in it, but I shall inquire about it. I always had the idea that the champagne came from fiddleheads and that, therefore, it was only available in the spring of the year.

On motion of Senator McElman, debate adjourned.

THE SENATE

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE BROADCASTING OF PROCEEDINGS— ORDER STANDS

On the Order:

Resuming the debate on the motion of the Honourable Senator Davey, seconded by the Honourable Senator Frith:

That the Senate authorize arrangements for radio and television broadcasting of its proceedings and those of its committees.

And on the motion in amendment thereto of the Honourable Senator Phillips, seconded by the Honourable Senator Doody, that the motion be not now adopted, but that the subject-matter thereof be referred to the Standing Committee on Internal Economy, Budgets and Administration.— (*Honourable Senator Marshall*)

Hon. Royce Frith (Deputy Leader of the Opposition): Honourable senators, with regard to this order, are we experiencing a sand-bagging or are we going to hear something from Senator Marshall on the matter? It has been on the order paper for quite a while.

Hon. Jack Marshall: Honourable senators, it has not been on the order paper any longer than many others, but I will be ready the moment we return from our week's recess.

Senator Doody: That is an optimistic comment.

Senator Phillips: If we get one.

Senator Marshall: Then, if not, I shall speak to it next Friday.

Senator Frith: Or Sunday.

Order stands.

THE HONOURABLE RICHARD B. HATFIELD

FIFTEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF BECOMING PREMIER OF NEW BRUNSWICK—DEBATE CONTINUED

On the Order:

Resuming the debate on the inquiry of the Honourable Senator Simard calling the attention of the Senate to the Honourable Richard B. Hatfield's Fifteenth Anniversary as Premier of New Brunswick.—(*Honourable Senator Corbin*).

[Senator McElman.]

Hon. Eymard G. Corbin: Honourable senators, before I resume my remarks on Order No. 13, I would observe for Senator Phillips' benefit that an addiction of any kind is bad and that a reasonable blend of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island potatoes would counter the propensity to eat only Prince Edward Island spuds. Otherwise, if one is not careful, one could have red sprouts coming out one's ears. I highly recommend a blend of New Brunswick and P.E.I. potatoes. Certainly it would be to the benefit of the two provinces.

Earlier this afternoon, Senator Finlay MacDonald said that Senator Robertson had gone to Edmunston, New Brunswick, to wrap some bandages, soothe some wounds, wipe some tears or something to that effect. I met Senator Robertson early this morning in the Victoria Building. She smiled at me, but, frankly speaking, I had no idea at the time that the haemorrhage was so bad. For all we know, the patient may be in the throes of death by the time she reaches Edmunston.

Senator Leblanc: There she is.

Some Hon. Senators: Oh, oh!

Senator Robertson: Now is not the time to get on my back.

Senator Corbin: I was going to say that she may even be attending a wake by the time she gets there, but I see she is back with us. I must conclude that the post-mortem has been completed and the patient pronounced dead.

Senator Phillips: You do not do a post-mortem unless the patient is dead.

Senator Corbin: Honourable senators, I would like to conclude my speech of December 5, 1985, on the inquiry of the Honourable Senator Simard calling our attention to the Honourable Richard B. Hatfield's fifteenth anniversary as Premier of New Brunswick. Yesterday the people of the provincial riding of Edmunston, which is in my beautiful, former riding of Madawaska-Victoria, New Brunswick, went to the polls. They were blessed with glorious weather and they were favoured by advance public opinion polls. The results of the election are as follows: the NDP candidate was sprinkled with 276 votes; the PC candidate was favoured with 2,048 votes; and Mr. Roland Beaulieu, the Liberal Party candidate, was swept in with the largest single majority since the establishment of the Edmunston riding with a strong 3,849 votes. He won all 36 polls on election day. The Progressive Conservatives bagged the absentee and advance polls, a fact, some would say, which could have been significant last week, but with hindsight the entrails of the chicken did not bear evil tidings for the Liberals. Seventy-eight per cent of the electorate voted which, admittedly, is not as high a participation rate as we are accustomed to in Edmunston. Must I conclude that some Tory supporters stayed home? That, I suggest, is a plausible explanation for the relatively low participation rate. Mr. Beaulieu's majority was 1,801 overall. That is a great victory for the Liberal Party and its leader, Frank McKenna. The rest is history.