

THE SENATE

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

ADDRESS IN REPLY

Tuesday, November 6, 1951

The Senate met at 8 p.m., the Acting Speaker (Hon. A. L. Beaubien) in the Chair.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

WHALING CONVENTION BILL

FIRST READING

Hon. Mr. Hugessen presented Bill B, an Act to implement the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling.

The bill was read the first time.

The Hon. the Acting Speaker: When shall the bill be read the second time?

Hon. Mr. Hugessen: Tuesday next.

GOVERNMENT ANNUITIES

INQUIRY

Hon. Mr. Reid inquired of the government:

1. What has been the total number of applications for government annuities in each province during the months of July, August and September of 1951?
2. What was the number of all such applications in each of the months commencing in June, 1950, and up to and including the month of June, 1951?

Hon. Mr. Hugessen: The answer to the first question is as follows:

| Province | Applications |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Prince Edward Island | 11 |
| Nova Scotia | 11 |
| New Brunswick | 20 |
| Quebec | 127 |
| Ontario | 529 |
| Manitoba | 34 |
| Saskatchewan | 50 |
| Alberta | 26 |
| British Columbia | 73 |
| Yukon and N.W.T. | 1 |
| Newfoundland | 1 |
| Total | 883 |

The answer to the second question is as follows:

| Month | Applications |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| June, 1950 | 516 |
| July, 1950 | 398 |
| August, 1950 | 354 |
| September, 1950 | 362 |
| October, 1950 | 506 |
| November, 1950 | 394 |
| December, 1950 | 410 |
| January, 1951, | 596 |
| February, 1951 | 410 |
| March, 1951 | 463 |
| April, 1951 | 452 |
| May, 1951 | 360 |
| June, 1951 | 383 |
| Total | 5,604 |

The Senate resumed from Friday, October 19, consideration of His Excellency the Governor General's Speech at the opening of the session, and the motion of Hon. Mr. Vien for an Address in reply thereto.

Hon. Thomas Reid: Honourable senators, in rising to take part in this debate, I wish at the outset to join with those who have expressed their thankfulness at the recovery of His Majesty the King. I am sure that I voice the feeling of all honourable senators when I say that we are indeed pleased to observe the rapid recovery which His Majesty has made from his serious illness and operation.

I also want to say a word or two about the Royal tour of Canada by Their Royal Highnesses, Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip, which had just commenced when this house adjourned some two weeks ago. I think the nicest compliment which has been paid the royal couple so far was by the writer of an editorial which appeared in a Washington paper. When the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh visited that city, he said that they were the two finest ambassadors who had ever left the shores of Britain for the North American continent. I think we can echo the sentiments expressed in that editorial. I have a great deal of sympathy for the royal couple, for they certainly have had a gruelling task in meeting thousands and thousands of people and travelling from one city to another from Quebec clear across Canada and back to the Maritime provinces. If there is one criticism that I would voice it is that perhaps the taking of pictures can be overdone. I think it was Her Royal Highness the Princess who on one occasion complained about the large number of photographers. One paper, I understand, had sixty photographers out at work on one phase of the royal tour. I just wonder what protection there is of the rights of individuals, who, without being asked whether they approve or not, are subjected to frequent explosions of flash-light bulbs. I do not know how other senators feel, but whenever a flash-light bulb goes off near me I still have to wink my eyes. In British Columbia we witnessed a peculiar incident. There were so many photographers present at a certain affair that the police began to push them back; and afterwards, by way of protest, the photographers staged a sit-down strike. To my mind it was plainly ridiculous and childish for photographers to feel peeved because of an attempt to prevent them interfering unduly with the royal couple's activities.