

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SASKATCHEWAN
Second Session — Sixteenth Legislature
35th Day

Monday, March 24, 1969

The Assembly met at 10:00 o'clock a.m.
On the Orders of the Day.

WELCOME TO VISITORS

Hon. W.R. Thatcher (Premier): — Mr. Speaker, before we resume proceedings, I would like to introduce to you Sir and to this Assembly, a distinguished parliamentarian from our sister Province of Quebec, Monsieur Paul Gerin-Lajoie, and Madame Gerin-Lajoie.

Mons. Gerin-Lajoie has been a Member of the National Assembly of Quebec, as it is presently called, since 1960. He held the portfolio of Minister of Youth beginning in that year, until his appointment as Minister of Education in 1964. He presently sits on the Opposition side. I think it is particularly interesting, Mr. Speaker, to note that Mons. Gerin-Lajoie was the Province of Quebec's first Minister of Education. He undertook that portfolio in 1964 and established the Department of Education in his home province. Seated with the honourable gentleman from Quebec is his charming wife and his host in the province, Professor André Lalonde, Assistant Professor of History, Regina campus.

My understanding, Sir, is that Mr. Blakeney went to university with Mons. Gerin-Lajoie. They were both Rhodes scholars. I hope he will find his Saskatchewan visit interesting. I am sure you, Sir, and all Hon. Members of this House will join with me in welcoming this distinguished gentleman to our Legislature and our Province.

Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. A.E. Blakeney (Regina Centre): — Mr. Chairman, on behalf of Members on this side of the House I want to extend to Mr. Paul Gerin-Lajoie our welcome to this Legislature and our welcome to the city of Regina, where he is going to address a university-sponsored meeting tonight, as I understand it. As the Premier has indicated, I knew Paul when we were together at university, and I have maintained some contacts with him since that time. It was my pleasure to be Minister of Education in 1960 and to attend conferences of the Ministers of Education at that time at which Mr. Gerin-Lajoie was present, at that time as Minister of Youth, but none the less responsible for the educational activities of the Government of Quebec. We attended also some of the Constitutional Conferences under the chairmanship of Mr. Fulton and Mr. Favreau. I have seen him on occasion at Bar Conventions. I think the last time was in 1967 when I was torn away from a Bar Convention in Quebec by the untimely announcement of a Provincial election in Saskatchewan.

I want to extend to him the warmest good wishes from all those on this side of the House and to hope that his stay with us will be as interesting for him as I know it will be for us.

Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. A. Thibault (Kinistino): — Mr. Chairman, in order to make the welcome complete, I will say a few words in the French language.

Monsieur l'orateur, au nom de mes collègues et moi-même, je voudrais joindre les honorables Messieurs Thatcher et Blakeney vous donner la bienvenue à Monsieur Paul Gerin-Lajoie.

C'est un honneur et un plaisir pour moi d'avoir parmi nous un de nos confrères de la Province de Quebec. Cela me fait toujours plaisir de recevoir un Canadien Français de Quebec; car je retiens un lien profond envers la belle province, puisque mes parents en étaient originaires. Nous espérons que votre séjour ici sera du plus agréable. Merci.

Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. L.P. Coderre (Gravelbourg): — Monsieur le président, mes chers collègues, moi aussi j'aimerais m'associer avec notre premier ministre à l'occasion de votre visite à la Chambre Législature dans la Province de Saskatchewan. J'aimerais donner la bienvenue à un compatriote de la Province de Quebec, comme membre Franco-Canadien et aussi comme membre de l'A.C.F.C. A bienvenue, Monsieur et Madame Gerin-Lajoie et professeur Lalonde. Merci.

Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Thatcher: — Monsieur le président, la langue française n'est pas encore officielle dans cette Chambre, mais peut-être ce sera possible après cette après-midi.

I also want to introduce three other gentlemen in our gallery. Today we have three officers of the new SRC at the University of Saskatchewan, the Student Representative Council. Mr. Rob Gardiner, the president; Mr. Tim Barry, the internal vice-president; and Dick Lovett the external vice-president. Would you three gentlemen mind standing for a moment.

Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

WELCOME TO STUDENTS

Mr. J.E. Brockelbank (Saskatoon Mayfair): — Mr. Chairman, along with our honoured guests from La Belle Province, we have some honoured guests from the constituency of Saskatoon Mayfair. They are situated in the east

March 24, 1969

gallery and they are from the public school of St. Gerard, in Saskatoon. I understand they accompanied by their teacher, Mr. Melnick. I am sure it is the wish of all Members here that they have an informative and interesting day in the Legislative Chamber and a safe journey back to Saskatoon Mayfair.

Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. J.J. Charlebois (Saskatoon City Park-University): — Mr. Chairman, it is a pleasure for me to introduce to the Members of this Assembly a group of 25 students who are in the Speaker's gallery. They are from Brunskill school, one of the fine schools in the constituency of Saskatoon City Park-University. These students are here under the supervision of Mrs. Carol Debert. Certainly we hope that they enjoy their stay here and that they have a very safe journey and a pleasant journey home.

Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

The Assembly adjourned at 10:04 o' clock p.m.