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(Given to the Press Sept. 12, 1933)

The passing of Senator Béique will occasion widespread sorrow and be recognized everywhere as a national loss. It removes from the public life of Canada one who for over half a century in legal, educational, financial, as well as political circles, has held an eminent position; one whose high integrity, wide knowledge and wise counsel in national and international affairs made him an elder statesman of quite exceptional character as well as influence.

In the parliament of Canada the loss of Senator Béique will be particularly felt, and nowhere more than in the councils of the Liberal party. He was one of the few surviving links between the Liberalism of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's day and that of our own. Of him it was a characteristic distinction that notwithstanding great age, his heart and mind continued young, large experience of human affairs seemed but to confirm his belief in the open mind and the farward outlook and to increase the warmth of a truly benevolent nature.

The loss to Senator Béique's immediate friends will be very great indeed. To me personally as the leader of the Liberal party it means the passing of one who in all personal and political relationships has been loyalty itself, and whose counsel and co-operation has been both generous and constant.

In the bereavement of Madame Béique of a companionship of nearly sixty years of private life and public service there will be experienced on all sides feelings of profound sympathy.

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