

own interest or in that of the public, again to attempt to assume the onerous responsibilities of a portfolio. However, his disappointment in that regard served only to bring out the finer side of his nature. I am sure that all my followers will agree that in the assiduous manner in which he continued to fight its battles no member of the party could have been more chivalrous to the party as a whole. Certainly I can say that no supporter was ever more loyal to his leader to the end of his days than was Peter Veniot. It was these qualities of true worth which so greatly endeared him to all his colleagues.

As I think of how Mr. Veniot's name will be remembered in this country, I feel that it will always be associated with the qualities of industry, of integrity, and of fidelity. It is very much to his credit that throughout a life of public service which extended over almost half a century he gave almost all of his time to public affairs, often at considerable sacrifice of his own private interests. As the best of all legacies he bequeathed to his family an honoured name, and to his country an honourable tradition of public service. Perhaps as fine a tribute as any that could be paid his memory was that expressed by the people of Gloucester, whose interests in the legislature and in parliament he had served for so long a time, in that when they were called upon to choose a successor they selected Doctor Veniot, his eldest son, one of six sons, and returned him to this House of Commons by acclamation.

May I say to Doctor Veniot, knowing his father as I did, I am sure that nothing could have meant more to his father or could mean more to his father's memory than to have one of his sons, and in particular his eldest son, continue unbroken the tradition of public service which has come to be associated with the name he bears.

Right Hon. Sir GEORGE PERLEY (Argenteuil): On behalf of the opposition and those who sit around me I wish to join with the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) in expressing regret at the death of these two friends of ours who have passed away since the last session, and I also wish to express the sympathy of the opposition with the government in the loss of two of their loyal supporters.

As a matter of fact the life of a member of parliament is a pretty strenuous one, more so than that of an ordinary individual, and that is the reason why we find every year there are those who in the interval between ses-

[Mr. Mackenzie King.]

sions have passed away and to whose memory we wish honour by some words of appreciation.

Mr. Perras, as member for Wright, was born across the river in Hull. He lived most of his life at Gracefield up the Gatineau river, and one thing I had in common with him was the fact that he was in the lumber business, which, long ago, before I entered public life, was also my work. Mr. Perras was mayor of Gracefield for many years, and I believe, was successful in carrying out the work of that office. He was also warden of the county, and we all know the responsibilities which that office entails.

I did not know Mr. Perras very well, but some of my relatives lived next door to him in this city and they described him to me as a good neighbour. I do not know how one can say anything better about a man than that those who lived beside him considered him a good neighbour. He died a comparatively young man, at the age of only sixty. He was a regular attendant at the sessions of this house. It is quite true, as the Prime Minister has said, that he did not take very much part in debate, but he was careful in his work and diligent in looking after the wants of his constituents, and he has left behind him a name of which his relatives may well be proud.

Mr. Veniot was an older man in point of years, and one who, as the Prime Minister has said, had given much of his life to public service. According to the records he first started some sixty years ago, as secretary of the school board. He became a member of the provincial legislature, afterwards premier of his own province, eventually a member of this house, and he was appointed by the Liberal administration in 1926 as Postmaster General of Canada. In other words, Mr. Veniot's career was a distinguished one, and I join with everything the Prime Minister has said in that regard and in the expression of sympathy to the family he has left behind.

Mr. Veniot was a very worthy representative of the Acadian race, and when he was in his prime he was a doughty fighter, an opponent strenuous in debate. During the last year or two he had not been well, but I feel sure, although I never heard him on the platform, that in elections he must have been an effective debater. At the same time Mr. Veniot was of a very kindly disposition; I always found him so. When he had his political armour off he was a cheery, pleasant man to meet and to do business with. I think we may take a pattern from Mr. Veniot's life. There is no position which is not open to anyone with the ability and the energy to