

colleagues in the House of Commons thirty years ago will remember his energy and activity. Defeated a first time, he succeeded in gaining a seat in 1911, and at the federal election of 1930 became chief organizer of his party in Quebec. His reputation as an able administrator placed him in line for the important position of chairman of the Montreal Harbour Board.

Our beloved colleague always endeavoured to bring out into the open the social injustices he came across. As someone has well said, "To serve was for him the highest of human motives, and he practised what he preached, by devoting all his efforts to the defence of the cause he had espoused."

Hon. Mr. Rainville's career stands out as a model for our youth and for all Canadians who love their country. In 1911, our late friend achieved a great victory over one of our most brilliant political men.

His remarkable qualities brought him to the attention of the Conservative leaders, who asked him to head their organization in the province of Quebec. Our friend was equal to the task, and his endeavours were progressively greater as the field became more difficult.

Senator Rainville revealed himself to be an indefatigable worker. He belonged to the most enterprising and energetic type of men.

To the families of the late senators I wish to offer my most heartfelt sympathy. I am sure that all honourable members of the Senate share my feelings in this respect. In bereaving us of our colleagues the Grim Reaper has struck down two great Canadians who loved us all dearly.

Hon. L. COTE: Honourable senators, a number of our colleagues have already reviewed the careers and praised the qualities of the late Senators Sharpe and Rainville, and well expressed our sense of loss at their departure from our midst. In fact, those feelings, which I fully share, have been so well expressed that I hesitate to add anything. Nevertheless, I do wish to state, as briefly as I can, how Senator Joseph Rainville appeared to me across the many years, more than twenty-five, that I had the honour of knowing him. He was a typical son of Quebec, an idealist, a dreamer, a chaser of the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow, a lover of music and art, and had withal a mind keen and clear, vivacious and active. He was truly French to the very marrow of his bones.

As has been stated by other senators, he was deeply attached to, loved and was proud of his racial inheritance. And I know that he had delved into the story of the romance

Hon. Mr. PAQUET.

of its survival in Canada. I remember that some years ago Senator Rainville delivered in the Academic Hall of the University of Ottawa a lecture of high literary quality, at which time he related an incident explanatory of the survival of that inheritance. He told his audience how after the cession of Canada by the French king, a school teacher of Three Rivers, who possessed the only French grammar in the city, used to teach that subject to his pupils by placing the treasured book on a reading desk to which they would come, one at a time, and, without touching it, lest it be damaged, read the lesson of the day, a lesson on the rules of a language which, as was said by a great orator in the other House at the time of the last war, has the limpidity of spring water and the strength of tempered steel—a language which our late colleague spoke admirably.

But Senator Rainville was not only French. He was a Canadian of French descent, who knew and remembered the history of this country. He remembered that in 1775 French Canadian swords, which had been dormant since the days of Ticonderoga and of the Plains of Abraham, leaped from their scabbards in order that Canada might remain British; and he remembered that by that deed his native province ceased to be so much ceded territory, because its inhabitants had exercised the right of self-determination, and that thenceforth they were Canadians who claimed all the rights of Canadian citizenship and assumed their full share of the duties which are the price of those rights.

In 1917 Mr. Rainville was a member of the House of Commons and he stood for reelection in his riding of Chambly-Verchères. He supported the Government of the day, and in that riding of Chambly-Verchères he advocated and supported compulsory military service. In doing that he did a sincere and brave thing. I think that as he entered that electoral conflict there must have come to his lips the prayer which in olden days candidates for knighthood in France used to say on the eve of their investiture, when they went to church to have their swords blessed. The words of that prayer, which I read the other day in an old book in my home, have so actual and poignant an appeal in these days when our own Canadian airmen, sailors and soldiers are giving the world such noble examples of gallantry and sacrifice, that I will read them to the House:

Almighty God, You hold balanced in Your hands the shafts of victory and the fulminations of celestial anger. Deign from the height of Your glory to look upon him who has come within Your temple to perform the duty of