

from the other place where he was a very prominent and important figure. I can quite understand his feeling of restraint in this house when we did not want to move too fast. I sympathized with him particularly because I remembered that when I came from the Manitoba Legislature, where I at least thought I was a fighting unit, and tried to put on a fight here, nobody listened to me. I think my friend Ian Mackenzie had the same experience. He was trying to break out of bounds and get things going.

The widow of the late senator is a young woman from my home city, whose great ability was highly regarded by the company with whom she was employed before she married. I assure her we will long remember her late lamented husband, and we wish her happiness in the future years.

**Hon. J. W. deB. Farris:** Honourable senators, I endorse all that has been said by the two leaders in this house and I wish to add a special word in tribute to my very old friend Ian Mackenzie.

After thirteen years in this house it seems to me more inevitable each year that as we come back and have the pleasure of renewing our acquaintances and meeting old friends, the occasion is saddened by the loss of some who are no longer here. I have in mind particularly two senators from Vancouver who were the most outstanding and dynamic men we have had from any part of Canada. One was Irish, the other Scotch. Honourable senators all know to whom I refer—Gerry McGeer and Ian Mackenzie. We, in our short wisdom, would think both these men died too soon. They died in the prime and full bloom of their manhood. They were both spectacular, and could always make the headlines; but they also had an earnest zeal and desire to give public service.

I knew the late Ian Mackenzie very intimately for thirty-five years. It is that long since he came to Canada from Scotland, a young man freshly graduated from Edinburgh University with about as high honours and as fine a scholastic record as anyone from that great institution. Hardly had he settled in Vancouver where he intended to practice law, when the First Great War broke out and he enlisted in the Seaforth Highlanders. Whether in peace or war Ian Mackenzie was always at home where there was a fight; his record at the front was characteristic; on more than one occasion he was mentioned in dispatches.

At the conclusion of hostilities my late colleague returned to Vancouver and again undertook the difficult task of establishing a law practice in that new city. Then came the provincial election of 1920. At that time I was Attorney-General of British Columbia, and we

in the government had our eye on Ian Mackenzie. With the permission of the house I will quote from a speech he made three years ago at a big dinner we gave him in Vancouver. He said:

"Against my will and after three days argument with him I was dragooned into being a candidate by such a forceful and plausible advocate as my good friend Wallace Farris, now Senator Farris.

I think I did dragoon him into being a candidate, but he has never held it against me. Certainly the people of Canada, and more particularly those of British Columbia, have good reason to be grateful that the late senator was induced at that time to come into public life.

Ian Mackenzie was elected, and it is remarkable to note that for twenty-seven years he represented Vancouver and was never defeated. I can speak rather feelingly in that respect, because I ran in six elections there and got elected three times.

In 1930 my late friend was invited by Mr. Mackenzie King to join his government, and he became a minister for a short time. That government was defeated, but Senator Mackenzie defeated that redoubtable fighter Harry Stevens. He came back to Ottawa, and for five years was a member of a small group which led a fight against his personal friend Mr. R. B. Bennett. He was one of the stalwart leaders in the opposition during that period.

When the King government was returned to power Ian Mackenzie was made Minister of National Defence. I speak now of things that happened when I first came to the Senate. At that time Ian would come over to my room and talk about his troubles in the other place. He wanted the government to vote \$200 million for national defence purposes; in this he failed, but he did succeed in getting the appropriation increased from \$35 million to \$60 million. Perhaps it can be told now that Ian Mackenzie at that time considered resigning from the government. I think he was right in taking the larger view of the problem and remaining. It would have been better if we had spent more money on defence at that time, but a government in matters of this kind can go only as far as public sentiment will permit it to go.

After the Second World War broke out Ian Mackenzie was made Minister for Pensions and National Health. That department was soon merged with the department in which he really belonged, that of Veterans Affairs. There he enjoyed his greatest success in administration. I know that the watchword he gave to all associated with him was: "When in doubt lean backwards in favour of the veterans". There is in Canada a composite group of statutes known as the "Veterans Charter", of which competent authority has