

Graham) upon his birthday. I was told to speak from my heart and not to prepare a speech. However, as no time was allowed me, preparation was out of the question; and possibly it is just as well that that is so, because I might have seriously encroached upon the time of the Senate had I prepared a speech to extol the merits of the right honourable gentleman.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mrs. WILSON: I should like to endorse a statement contained in a letter which I received this morning from the honourable senator from Halifax (Hon. Mr. Dennis). He said he considered himself very fortunate in that his birthday fell upon the same day as that of our best loved Canadian citizen. I think we all echo the sentiment expressed and hope that the Right Hon. George P. Graham may be with the Senate for many years to come.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Hon. IVA CAMPBELL FALLIS: I feel highly honoured to have been asked to follow my colleague (Hon. Mrs. Wilson) who has just extended the good wishes of the House to the right honourable senator from Eganville. I esteem it a privilege on behalf of those who sit on this side of His Honour the Speaker to express our felicitations. I should like more particularly to speak on behalf of the Conservative women of Canada, for we all know that the right honourable gentleman is beloved by the women of this Dominion. And may I add that I am no exception to the rule. While it is easy for the honourable senator from Rockcliffe (Hon. Mrs. Wilson) to express her feelings from the fulness of her heart—this might well be expected from an honourable member on the Liberal side of the House, if one may use such a distinction—I think it is something unique in the annals of this House that a member on the so-called Opposition side can truthfully say that during all the long years the right honourable gentleman from Eganville has occupied a conspicuous place in the public life of this country he has been beloved by those who have opposed him as well as by those who have supported him politically. The Good Book says, "Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you," but I am sure the warning does not apply in this case.

Right Hon. Mr. GRAHAM: It did not say women.

Hon. Mrs. FALLIS: That is quite right. So, as all women to-day are speaking well of my right honourable friend, I am sure he is quite safe. I can only add that we on this

side of the House hope that the right honourable gentleman will long be spared to give us the inspiration of his genial smile as we come into this Chamber.

Hon. RAOUL DANDURAND: I think that we mere men should insist on obtaining from the Right Hon. George P. Graham his recipe, since he is now always counting backwards.

Right Hon. GEORGE P. GRAHAM: Honourable members, there are occasions when in addressing this House we just say "honourable gentlemen." To-day, however, I might properly say "honourable ladies," to the exclusion of honourable gentlemen. I almost felt like quoting Scripture on this occasion, but the women anticipated me. I can see reasons why women should love my honourable leader here (Hon. Mr. Dandurand); but as for me, I am looking backward at him. In a word, he is, I think, a little mixed in stating that I am always counting backwards.

I appreciate more than you might imagine that one can live a long time and get along reasonably well with his fellow citizens of both political persuasions. Why men—and women, too, now—cannot engage in the duties of public life in a strenuous way and still retain their respect for one another I never could understand, though I admit that it is harder to do so in certain cases than in others. A lively discussion is quite proper, but when a man loses his temper in discussing public affairs he loses just so much influence, for there is nothing more upsetting than a political dog-fight.

Now, why honourable senators and others should continue to wish that I stay on earth longer I do not know. I shall have to look to the lady senators for an explanation. I do not think that in raising this question I can get much encouragement from my honourable leader (Hon. Mr. Dandurand). There is such a thing as living too long.

Some Hon. SENATORS: No, no.

Right Hon. Mr. GRAHAM: But I have no idea of wanting to quit yet, particularly since I am in the Senate.

But, to be serious, there is something enticing about public life. It gets to be a disease—a very agreeable disease if nurtured properly—and we who have carried on for a great many years can look back to it with a great deal of pleasure, and even, I think it is safe to say, to the scraps we have had, for as far as I have observed they do not leave any bitterness. While I do not like open warfare, which sometimes is a bit disgraceful in its tendencies, I think a little pep now and then is good for sluggishness; and while I am beyond