

*Tribute to Long-Service Members*

public service and good health. I express my compliments to them on the contribution they have made to Parliament and to the lives of those associated with them.

**Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** Mr. Speaker, my colleagues and I wish to associate ourselves with the sentiments expressed by the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) and extend our congratulations to the hon. member for Calgary Centre (Mr. Harkness) and the hon. member for Ottawa East (Mr. Richard) on having completed a quarter of a century of service to this House and to the people of the constituencies they represent.

Politicians have three main problems: First, how to get elected to the House of Commons; second, how to stay there and, third, how to get out gracefully. When the late Senator Chubby Power was a member of this chamber he said that there are only two ways for a member to get out of this House: One is to be defeated and the other is to die, but the trouble with these alternatives is that the first is so humiliating and the second is so final. The two members we are honouring today have succeeded in avoiding both, and I hope they will not have to worry about the latter for a long time.

The members of my party wish me to say how happy our association has been with these two members over the years. We wish them well. We trust that they will continue in good health and that they will have the privilege of serving the people of their constituencies and the people of Canada for many years to come.

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue):** Mr. Speaker, I am glad to join the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) in extending our warmest congratulations to the members for Ottawa East and Calgary Centre (Messrs. Richard and Harkness).

Between 1945 and 1949, I got to know both very well as I was then sitting on this side of the House. If we had to part company in 1949, it was not my fault but that of the "bad" Liberals who defeated me.

In any case, the members for Ottawa East and Calgary Centre, whom I got to know between 1945 and 1949, have both rendered tremendous services to their constituents.

[*Mr. Stanfield.*]

Personally and on behalf of my colleagues, I wish them long life and success in their undertakings. I hope they will continue to serve the Canadian people for many years to come.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

[*English*]

**Hon. D. S. Harkness (Calgary Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to thank the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition, the leader of the New Democratic Party and the leader of the Cr ditiste party for their kind expressions of good will toward the hon. member for Ottawa East and myself. I should like to thank you, Mr. Speaker, and, indeed, all our colleagues in the House for the mark of esteem which they have shown by their applause.

I appreciate this very much. I must agree with the Prime Minister that 25 years is a very large slice of one's working life to spend in Parliament. At the same time, I do not know of any way in which I could have spent those 25 years in a more interesting manner than I have here in the House of Commons.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Harkness:** It is a privilege to have known so many hundreds of members who have sat in the House in that period, to have been able to exchange ideas with them, and to obtain from them a much broader idea of the different elements which make up this country—its problems, its diversity, and, at the same time all the unifying forces that exist within it. This is a privilege one can only enjoy by spending a long period in the House of Commons. I must say, though, that occasions of this sort demonstrate fairly dramatically the fact that all of us here are engaged in a very hazardous occupation. I do not know of any other way of life in which the survival rate after 25 years is less than 2 per cent.

I must at this point express my thanks to the voters of Calgary who have sent me here in the last nine elections, and say to all my colleagues that the only way in which to make a career out of politics is to make sure that your voters continue to support you.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!