

All this is the public side of a public man. But there was George Perley the man, who was my friend, faithful and true, loyal and devoted, of whom it is so difficult to speak. He was a man of great tolerance, of quiet generosity, one who contributed to social services without publicity. He gave a great building here in memory of his father and mother, to help those who are stricken as they move on through life. That was partly personal and yet an important part of the public side of the man. There was a quality that characterized his judgments, his counsel, his appraisals of others, which may be indicated by what I well recall his saying about a certain person of whom criticisms were being offered—"Ah well, you know, after all he may not be too bad." Always there was the thought that there was some good thing that could be said, and this quality was so often manifested in his private utterances.

His friendships were many. I think the loss by death of Sir Robert Borden affected him deeply, because, while not the same age, they had been closely associated in public life and public office, in sport, and in intimate family life.

I do think, Mr. Speaker, that what the Prime Minister said a moment ago should not be forgotten. It is well that fitting tribute should be paid when distinguished service has been rendered to the state by one who occupied such a place that it was unnecessary for him to seek public office in order to establish his position in the community in which he lived; for had Sir George Perley never held public office he would have been respected and admired and esteemed by his community. He was an Ottawa man. When the great fire occurred across the river in Hull, and it became necessary to solicit public subscriptions to help the sufferers, they pressed Sir George Perley to be chairman so that the administration of the funds might be beyond question, and that all those entitled to receive benefit from the generosity of a contributing public might do so. He was a man of integrity, and of rectitude, with a high sense of honour and a never-failing dignity. But in his personal life and in association with friends, his was the genuine nature of youth, and it was that boyish disposition that kept him ever young; for although he had attained the age of eighty years, none of us sitting here and looking at him could have thought for a moment that he had passed three score.

He has gone, Mr. Speaker, but he has left behind him an imperishable memory, a record

of such varied achievements that the mere mention of them makes it seem almost incredible that they could have been accomplished by one man—member of parliament, chief whip of his party, minister of the crown, high commissioner, an overseas minister, a plenipotentiary at the signing of peace treaties, a member of the war cabinet; and the very large number of private enterprises, charitable, philanthropic and social, with which he was connected during all those years, I shall not trespass on the time of the house to name. But it is well that we should pause and think of one who served this country well, whose name was never touched by the breath of scandal or by the suspicion of failure in any respect of one who maintained the high standards of rectitude and integrity that he has left us.

Sir George Perley has left behind him, as I say, an imperishable memory, not only of the public service upon which he entered as a young man, but a memory in the hearts of all who knew him. The door-man at the hotel said to me, "You have lost a great man." I said "Yes." And he added that a friend to whom he was speaking said, "They don't make them that way now." "Ah," the other replied, "but it took seventy-five years to make him." There is great truth in that. He was the product of hereditary conditions, of environment and of great traditions. His life has left us the richer; and I agree with what the Prime Minister has said, that we should not mourn but rather rejoice that such a life has been given to us in all its amplitude of service, rendered modestly and quietly, and all its magnificent unselfish regard for others, without ostentation, without publicity. He served his day and generation; he departed without pain or sadness, though with a suddenness that has left a shock in the hearts of all who knew him; for I think few of us can realize, as from day to day we go about our tasks, that he has left us. I believe the words I can best use with respect to him were those that were given to me by one of my fellow members yesterday. They are these:

Not stirring words, nor gallant deeds alone,
Plain, patient work fulfilled that length
of life;
Duty, not glory—Service, not a throne,
Inspired his effort, set for him the strife.

Mr. J. S. WOODSWORTH (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I think there is nothing that can usefully be added at this time. I simply desire to associate my colleagues and myself with these words of esteem