

His departure deprives us of a sincere and dear friend. May I be permitted to express to his wife my very deep sorrow.

(Text):

Hon. L. M. Gouin: Honourable senators, the Leader of the Government (Hon. Mr. Macdonald) and the Leader of the Opposition (Hon. Mr. Haig), as well as all other honourable senators who have spoken, have paid high tribute to the memory of our five colleagues who departed this life since our last prorogation.

I regard it a personal duty to express my sympathy to the family of Senator Pirie, who was an outstanding businessman in the Maritime provinces; and to express sympathy also to the family of Senator Ross, who was indeed a grand old man. Senator Ross won my heart from the first day I met him, and I shall never forget the friendship which he showed to me: his kindly smile was for me always a great encouragement.

As to Senator Stevenson, he was my neighbour when I was appointed to this chamber and we became, in this way, intimate friends. We were always glad to meet each other, and I shall always retain a good memory of his many kindnesses.

I come now to Senator Godbout, under whom I served in many political campaigns when he was Premier of Quebec and later Leader of the Opposition in the province. He was a man of courage, a man of duty, a man of honour, but what principally characterized him for me was his sincere and deep love for the land, particularly for his own farm. I met him for the first time, oh, perhaps 30 years ago. He had not yet entered politics. He was addressing a meeting of my students in our Faculty of Commerce of the Université de Montréal, and I said to myself, "This young man will surely do something great, this young man has a grand future". I felt that way because, although I was born in the city and had no experience at all in agricultural matters, I had never heard our good old land of the province of Quebec praised in such a way. It was not alone the words he used that impressed me so greatly, but the manner in which he expressed his deep, deep love for the land of good old Quebec.

And now I come to speak of the senator with whom I was even more closely associated than the others, my very dear friend John Hackett. We did not belong to the same political faith, but I knew him for, I think, more than forty years, and never for one minute, never for one second, did I have any reason to complain of John Hackett, in

politics, in cases we were arguing against each other at the bar, or in our business relations. He was a champion of what I would call religious and racial harmony in his native province, and on this point he was in a different camp serving the same cause as was Adélarde Godbout. At the end of his life Adélarde Godbout also lived in the eastern townships.

John Hackett was a good Christian, a good Quebecer and a good Canadian. He loved his country, and he loved in particular his own Stanstead which was his home village and for which he had indeed the greatest devotion.

He was proud of his own part of the province of Quebec, he was proud of the beautiful mountains which surround the area from which he came, and it was with very deep regret that we went up to Mount Saint Mary Cemetery, where he was laid to rest in a beautiful landscaped setting. He was a great friend of mine, and I am made very sorry by his death.

Hon. Cairine R. Wilson: Honourable senators, I rise to endorse what has been so well expressed here today by my own leader (Hon. Mr. Macdonald) and the Leader of the Opposition (Hon. Mr. Haig), as well as by the others who preceded me. Senator Jodoin paid a very eloquent tribute to the late Senator Adélarde Godbout, and as she was speaking I realized that I, an English-speaking native of the province of Quebec, should add a few words of tribute also. I was already a member of the Senate when my husband first received voting papers with respect to property which I owned in that province, so I do have some appreciation of the difficulties which women in Quebec had to contend with.

The Leader of the Opposition said that Senator Godbout's word was as good as his bond, and I well know that to be a fact. He promised the vote to the women of the province of Quebec, and he was prepared to go to the limit to fulfil that promise. He said that his honour was at stake. We all owe him a great debt, and I personally feel that his passing is a severe loss to our chamber.

Hon. Muriel McO. Fergusson: Honourable senators, I too would like to join in the tributes that have been paid to our deceased colleagues. I certainly can add very little to what has been said so very eloquently already. Senator Ross and Senator Stevenson I came to know in the Divorce Committee, and I admired very much their attitude toward the work there.