

Manion's life is an inspiration to all of us. He has left the heritage of a good name and a life well lived.

Lives of great men all remind us
We can make our lives sublime,
And departing, leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time.

Mr. M. J. COLDWELL (Rosetown-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, may I join with the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) and the leader of the opposition (Mr. Graydon) in extending to Mrs. Manion and her family the deepest sympathy of the members of the party with which I am associated. As for myself and others who sit with me, we shared the atmosphere of this chamber with the late Doctor Manion. There is not much that one can say, except that when we disagreed with him we realized that here was a happy nature, a man typical of the race and people from which he sprang, and one whose quick retort and ready wit often enlivened this chamber.

He left this House of Commons in 1940 after defeat, the policy laid down by his party having found little popular support throughout the country. For that failure no doubt he himself grieved and to some extent suffered.

We wish to join with all members in the house in paying tribute to the memory of a man with whom we disagreed often, but whose many qualities were admired and whose work we respected.

Mr. J. H. BLACKMORE (Lethbridge): Mr. Speaker, when I heard that Doctor Manion had been called away I was asked to voice an expression for publication in the press. I issued these words:

Sincerely, energetically, honourably, Doctor Manion strove to build a better Canada, serving as a surgeon, a soldier, a statesman. Doing so he was actuated by those warm and noble feelings which former generations knew as patriotism. He deserved well.

I wish to join with those who have already spoken in expressing on behalf of this group our profound sympathy with the wife and children who by his death are bereaved. May I also congratulate them upon having had as a husband and father a worthy man.

Hon. P. J. ARTHUR CARDIN (Richelieu-Verchères) (Translation): Mr. Speaker, the sad news of Hon. Doctor Manion's premature passing away recalls to the members of this house and, in fact, to all human beings, the implacable brevity of life and the vanity of most of the things that hold our attention during our rather fleeting stay in this world.

On this occasion, it is fitting to say that, in spite of differences of opinion and of the disagreements inherent to political struggles, the citizens of French descent always held in the most profound respect the personality, the works, the activities of the distinguished deceased whose loss we mourn to-day. In the thick of the contest and of the struggle, he always showed himself of unimpeachable loyalty and, because of his attitude, of the nobility of his character and of his radiant sympathy, he was always considered as a friend by the citizens of my province and by Canadians of French descent; no political discussions ever left a trace of the feelings or altered the friendly relations which existed between him and Canadian citizens of French descent.

Joining all other Canadians, we, the citizens of Quebec and Canadians of French descent, respectfully bow our thoughts over the grave which, far too soon, was sealed over a citizen who made his mark in Canada's political and social life. The memory of this distinguished Canadian and of his works will long be cherished by us, and this same memory will long be veiled by the sadness which his death has caused.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I assume that it is unnecessary for me to ask you, Mr. Speaker, on behalf of all the members of this House of Commons, to convey to Mrs. Manion and to her sons the expression of our very deep sympathy in their bereavement.

THE LATE GENERAL SIKORSKI

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, it is with great regret that I have to inform the house that General Sikorski, prime minister of Poland and commander in chief of the Polish armed forces, was killed yesterday in an aeroplane accident at Gibraltar while returning to the United Kingdom from a visit to the Polish forces in the middle east. General Sikorski's daughter and the chief of staff, General Klimecki, were also killed.

General Sikorski was an eminent statesman and soldier whose place in the councils of the united nations it will indeed be hard to fill. He had faced with supreme courage, high intelligence and unshaken confidence the baffling problems that confronted a government which had been deprived of direct control of all of its national territory. He had also been foremost in the task of reorganizing units of a Polish army which have lately fought with great gallantry in north Africa and other theatres of war.