

on Divorce, of which he was a highly valued member. I say also with confidence that the first thoughts of all of us are of sympathy for the members of his family, sympathy for them in the loss of a kind and loving father and a distinguished member of their family circle. The children of Senator Golding must have been proud of his great career. They must have recognized the sterling worth of his character and the strength which he exhibited on all occasions.

I knew Senator Golding for many, many years. I had the honour to be his principal speaker at one of the chief assemblies of his campaign as long ago as 1932, and I knew him intimately and admired him ever since. He was successful in that campaign and in others which followed, particularly in that of 1935. In 1940 I followed him to the Commons, where I found him to be, as he deserved to be, a prominent member, enjoying the confidence of the whole house, as was illustrated in the fact that he was chairman over and over again of the committees of the whole. He had the confidence of the Government of that day, I know very well, and was respected by all his colleagues in that house. I came to the Senate in 1945 and he followed me in 1949, and as a member of this house he at once achieved an ascendancy because of the confidence which he inspired. His honesty of thought, his clearness of expression, his genuine worth of character endeared him to us all and we hung upon his words.

I became chairman of the Senate Standing Committee on Divorce in 1954. He was already a valued member of that committee, as the honourable Leader of the Government (Hon. Mr. Aseltine) has mentioned. It is the most exacting and burdensome committee of the Senate and he was number one in attendance. There were other members who occasionally had as good a record of attendance but never anyone better. But that was not all. He was not only a faithful attendant, he was a devoted and dedicated member of that committee, assisting in its administration of justice, and was always ready with a kindly word. We will miss him greatly in that committee, not only for his contribution to the work, but his very presence will be sadly missed. I am sure that when we hold our initial meeting tomorrow morning his vacant chair will be a sad sight.

I can add little to what has been said of the general facts. It is not necessary to say more. But I do say to his family that Canada has lost a faithful and valued public servant. His family loses a kind and loving father and we of the Senate have lost a tried, true and loyal friend.

Hon. G. Percival Burchill: Honourable senators, I can add little to what has been said, and so well said, by the preceding speakers in tribute to our late senator colleague, William H. Golding. They have expressed the feelings of us all with respect to him. My only words are, and I am sure you will all agree with me, that this chamber is poorer on account of the death of Senator Golding.

I would just like to add a few words to what my colleague from Gloucester (Hon. Mr. Veniot) has said about the loss we in New Brunswick have sustained through the death of Senator Léger, because he was a very faithful representative of his province and had its interest and that of his constituency always before him.

I always admired his courage. He put up a brave front here year after year in his struggle for health, because he was afflicted and handicapped, and it was a hard battle to keep going and be on hand for the sittings of the Senate and to take his place in committees. When I would meet him in the corridor I tried to appreciate what he had to contend with, the battle he was waging, and I always had the greatest admiration for his courage.

Others have sketched the career of the late senator, his faithful representation in the House of Commons, and, as we all know, in this chamber he was a very valued member. He was a student of parliamentary procedure and practice and was quite conversant with all the rules of order. Along with Senator Taylor (Westmorland) and Senator Savoie I attended the funeral. The large congregation that assembled to pay tribute to him, which included many from distant points, I felt was a silent but most eloquent testimonial to the very high esteem in which Senator Léger was held.

Hon. John G. Higgins: Honourable senators, I crave the indulgence of this assembly for a few minutes to pay tribute to one who in recent days was my guide, philosopher and friend.

A short time ago there departed from our midst one who had graced both Houses of Parliament, but his memory will ever remain in the hearts of those who knew, respected and admired him. To him is given the eternal reward of a life well spent. To his friends are left the aching pause, the awful blank. We mourn the goodness gone from earth.

It is right and proper that we pay tribute to Senator Golding. It is a sad duty but it is also a pleasant one to be able to pay respect to him who deserves it. Let us praise good men who are no longer with us, for they earned praise in life and they deserve remembrance in death.