

rightness of calling a spade a spade and a shovel a shovel.

May I join with my honourable colleagues in expressions of regret that Senator Casgrain must say "Au revoir" to us. She will be remembered with affection—and I wish her health and happiness to continue her career and go on to future triumphs.

[Translation]

In conclusion, I will tell her on behalf of all the members on this side of the Senate: We extend to you our best wishes knowing that your retirement from the Senate does not mean a retirement from community activities.

If the Senate is losing your services, Canada we are sure will continue otherwise to profit by them.

[English]

Hon. A. Hamilton McDonald: Honourable senators, may I begin my remarks by thanking Senator Flynn, Leader of the Opposition, for leading off our proceedings this morning. I wish to join with him and with Senator Quart in their tributes to Senator Casgrain.

I wish to say to Senator Casgrain that I know Senator Martin would like to have been present on this occasion, to express his thanks and his gratitude to her. I am sure that on his return from Korea he will do so in another way.

I would like to express the thanks of the Government of Canada for the contribution which Senator Casgrain has made to the public life of this nation over a very long period of time. Her example is a good one for young people, whether they be male or female.

Senator Casgrain has indicated that there is a whole series of problems in this nation which need the attention not only of Parliament or provincial legislatures but also of Canadians generally who are prepared to spend time working for a better Canada.

Senator Casgrain, we wish you well in your retirement. It is unfortunate that you did not have the opportunity to serve here for a longer period, but I am certain your work will continue after your retirement from the Senate. We wish you well and we hope that from time to time you will visit us here in Ottawa.

Hon. Muriel McQ. Fergusson: Honourable senators, I too should like to express my sincere regret that Senator Casgrain will not be with us when we resume our sittings in the fall. She has been an ornament to the Senate in every way. We certainly appreciate having had her here.

Senator Casgrain has carried on the fine traditions of her family in the contributions she has made to the public life of Canada. She is widely known for the devoted work she has done and what she has accomplished for the underprivileged and, perhaps even more important, for the women of Quebec and Canada.

That she is appreciated was brought home to me very strikingly when we were travelling together with the Special Joint Committee on the Constitution. In the province of Quebec she was greeted with wide applause whenever her name was mentioned.

[Hon. Mr. Flynn.]

Since her appointment, Senator Casgrain has been a helpful addition to the Senate and its committees. She has attended the sittings of the Senate regularly and has made excellent contributions.

Much has already been said about Senator Casgrain's accomplishments, and if I were to continue I would only be repeating, but I should like to emphasize my own sincere regret that we are losing her. Judging by the interest she takes in legislation being passed in Canada and in her own province, I am sure that we will be the recipients of even more of her good advice in the future than in the past. I am looking forward to having consultations with her, and seeing her often.

Hon. L. P. Beaubien: Honourable senators, Senator Molson is sorry not to be here today and he has asked me to speak for him also when I say to our very charming colleague Senator Casgrain how sorry we all are to see her leave our already depleted ranks.

Hon. F. Elsie Inman: Senator Casgrain, it would be a much happier occasion if we were bidding you welcome instead of bidding you fond farewell.

As a member of the Senate, Senator Casgrain has contributed much to the activities of this house. She has made a splendid contribution. She is an outstanding Canadian citizen who has done much for the women of her own province and, indeed, for women throughout Canada. Senator Casgrain's activities did not end there, however, but permeated throughout all community work. Anything that would be of benefit to her community, and to the community of Canada as a whole, she has undertaken and her contributions have been very much worthwhile.

Senator Casgrain is a worthy descendant of famous ancestors. As she leaves us today I am sure she will carry on the traditions of her family in the continuation of her own good works on behalf of Canada in general. We all wish her great success and God speed.

Hon. Alan Macnaughton: Honourable senators, as I am sure you all know, Senator Casgrain is a famous descendant of two very well known Quebec families—the Forget family and the Casgrain family.

Many years ago, McGill law students and Liberal party workers used to meet more or less regularly several times a month at a salon which Madame Casgrain conducted for well known public figures, junior lawyers, and students of politics. As a result we had the opportunity of meeting many important people who were visiting Montreal or passing through, and it made Liberal party workers feel they really belonged to the party. That salon was conducted in the old European tradition for many years in Montreal.

I do not need to speak of Madame Casgrain's forceful character, or her great contribution to this country. But with her wisdom, charm and experience, I suggest that she is just beginning a new career in her native city and province, where she still has a great contribution to make to the welfare of her native country.