

*Tributes to Deceased Members*

indeed sorry to learn that while he lay so ill his wife and family suffered the ravages of fire during the disaster at Rimouski. I am sure all hon. members of the house join in expressing our deepest sympathy to the wives and families who mourn the loss of these two members.

**Mr. J. H. Blackmore (Lethbridge):** Mr. Speaker, Humphrey Mitchell was a casualty of world war II, during which he carried a heavy responsibility. He was extremely conscientious, industrious and painstaking, and simply wore himself out in the service of his country. I am told that he enjoyed the utmost confidence of Prime Minister Mackenzie King, and he justified that confidence by discharging his responsibilities with notable success. If he could have known beforehand I am sure he would have been quite content to be a war casualty. He was a downright and forthright Britisher to the very core, a relentless foe of dictatorship and oppression in all its forms. Humphrey Mitchell was a warmhearted, sympathetic friend, a loyal and appreciative colleague and supporter. He was consistently good-natured, possessing a never-failing sense of humour. The members of the Social Credit party wholeheartedly join other hon. members in extending their deepest sympathy to those who are bereft by his untimely death.

**Mr. E. G. Hansell (Macleod):** Mr. Speaker, the Social Credit group here have asked me to say a word in reference to the passing of Mr. Belzile. I cannot say that I knew Mr. Belzile intimately, but my association with him together with my observation of his activities in the house would lead me to believe that he could be numbered with the most conscientious members of the House of Commons. I recall having, on several occasions, rather delightful conversations with Mr. Belzile during the dinner adjournment, when we would be sitting on the benches on parliament hill. Even then I think perhaps he knew he was a sick man. I found him to be a modest, unassuming gentleman, who did not parade his knowledge and ability.

I am told by those who knew Mr. Belzile better that he was a careful student of the problems common to most of us as public servants. In his conscientiousness he was able to draw his own conclusions, and shared the wealth of those conclusions with his fellows. I believe one of the most accurate reflections of a man is that shown by his home life and the affection of his family. I am told that his was a happy family, which can only mean that Mr. Belzile was a loving father to his nine children and a good, faithful husband. Members of the Social Credit group join all

others in this house in extending our sympathy to those left to mourn his loss.

**Mr. Daniel McIvor (Fort William):** Mr. Speaker, you will pardon a brief word from me. When Hon. Humphrey Mitchell was appointed minister of labour I stood in my place and congratulated the late prime minister on appointing a real labour man to head that department. I gave his record then. He was having a hot time; he was not getting the support of labour, but he got it later on when they came to their senses and realized whom they had to lead them. I said in the house at that time that if the minister of labour would practice his code and follow the master workman of Galilee he would make a record that would be second to none in Canada. That is what he did; and at the end of last session he called me aside and asked if I remembered that speech. I replied that I did, and asked, "What about it?" Then he said, "Wouldn't a man be a blank fool if he did not know whom he was trusting with respect to his future home?"

I think this should be said, because it does not matter what a man has or what he does; if he has not faith in God he has not much.

**Mr. Jean François Pouliot (Temiscouata):** Mr. Speaker, I join with the other members in conveying my deepest sympathy to the Prime Minister, and to the members of the government, upon the passing of the late minister of labour, who came from fine British stock, who was four-square, who had a genial disposition and who was a friend of everyone, as the leader of the opposition has just said. During the last war the position of minister of labour was a most difficult one. If Mr. Mitchell was successful in handling most difficult problems it was because he was sincere; he was eminently just and honest. How many members of parliament recall having mentioned some trouble in their constituency to Humphrey Mitchell and having received his reply, "Send it to me and I shall see what I can do." Something was always done to help the man in the street or any person who asked for assistance. He always succeeded in redressing wrong.

I regret that I was unable to attend his funeral, which was most impressive, but I convey to Mrs. Mitchell and to her sons my deepest sympathy, and I believe I can add the sympathy of all the private members of parliament.

I attended the funeral of my neighbour and friend, the late Notary Belzile of Rimouski, and it was quite impressive. It was a last tribute to a member of parliament who had done his duty, and who enjoyed the love and confidence of his constituents. Thousands of people filled the cathedral at Rimouski,