

*The late T. L. Church*

We express our sympathy to his party and to those who are left to mourn the loss of a fine man.

**Mr. J. H. Harris (Danforth):** Mr. Speaker, perhaps there are not many in this house who knew our late departed friend as well as I did. The Prime Minister (Mr. St. Laurent) mentioned the year 1898. I am unable to go back that far, but I remember well that in 1905 I drove a pony and cart to take voters to vote for the late Mr. Church. I remember so well coming into this house for the first time as the youngest member of that day. Mr. Church was then a member and at that time he represented a western portion of the city of Toronto and I the eastern. With the change in population and other changes brought about by time, it was necessary for him to find another seat. My riding was split into two and he took over a large number of my people. I took the remainder.

I can see the late Mr. Church, during the last election campaign, at the corner of Gerrard and Broadview in Toronto. I can see him entering stores and greeting storekeeper after storekeeper, all of whom knew him well, and many of whom supported him because they loved him. They not only loved him; they also loved the principles for which he stood.

I know these people. I learned to know them when I was quite young, and I know what they thought of our departed friend. I know that they realized, as the Prime Minister said a moment ago, that the late Mr. Church was a champion of all the merits of a worthy daughter of the empire. We appreciate the sentiment of the Prime Minister, but I also know that the valiant sons and daughters who came back from two world wars after serving Canada loved the late Mr. Church more than any other person from that great metropolis of close to a million people. They appreciated the fact that he saw every troop train leave, and met every train that brought them back. These sons and daughters of Canada knew where they stood, and they knew they would have a supporter in this assembly to look after their interests.

I feel it a high privilege to have this opportunity of paying a tribute to the late member for Broadview. It was also my good fortune to know his sisters, one of whom has also passed on. I knew the late member for Broadview for forty-five years. Far too many men of that calibre have been lost to Canada. If any young men or young women within range of my voice this afternoon are still considering their future course, particularly in reference to their leaning toward the empire or otherwise, let them take a leaf out

[Mr. Low.]

of the book of Thomas Langton Church, who, whatever you may say, in my opinion was one of Canada's greatest statesmen. He accomplished much, not for himself but for Toronto, for Ontario and for Canada, and much for the empire, which is playing such a vital part in the events of this day and generation.

**Mr. Jean François Pouliot (Temiscouata):** Mr. Speaker, may I join the countless friends of the late Mr. Church in conveying to his family, to his native city of Toronto and to his party my deepest sympathy in their great loss. Seldom have we heard such fine tributes as those which have been paid this afternoon to the memory of a great Canadian and a great man who is no longer among us.

I knew Mr. Church for many years; he was exceedingly kind to me. I remember that the first occasion I had to thank him was when I was fighting some private legislation which concerned my constituency. I did not ask for his support, but I received it in most generous measure, and from that time on we were friends. We also had mutual friends in the city of Toronto, and he did me the signal honour of introducing me to the primate of his church.

Reference has been made to his natural congeniality and his ability to make friends, but nothing has been said of the high regard in which he was held by the high clergy of his church. During the last Christmas season he had an invitation from the primate of that church to spend some time with him in Halifax. Unfortunately the invitation could not be accepted, but when I saw the report of the funeral I was not at all surprised to learn that for many hours before the service he lay in state in his church, and that the service was conducted by the primate, the Most Reverend Archbishop Kingston, assisted by the Dean of Toronto.

That did not mean that Mr. Church was at all narrow-minded. He represented a constituency named Broadview, and he deserved to represent it, because he was so broad-minded. For the dignitaries of other churches, in particular the Roman Catholic church, he had the same respect he held for his own clergy. Often he told me that he had attended celebrations to honour Monsignor Casey in Toronto, and he was on the most intimate terms with His Eminence Cardinal McGuigan, the present Roman Catholic archbishop of Toronto.

I never heard Tommy Church say anything nasty about anyone in the House of Commons; that is why he enjoyed the respect of all. He held deep convictions; and in that