

Few men may claim this privilege and know how to use it for the general advantage. The honourable Senator Jacob Nicol was one of those persons, and he applied for the good of his compatriots the exceptional talents which Providence had bestowed upon him. He was an honourable citizen and a great Canadian."

That, honourable senators, is the tribute of one old friend to another; and all that I can do is to associate myself in every way with the words that I have just spoken, and to join with the two leaders in expressing our condolences to his family.

(Translation):

Hon. Paul H. Bouffard: Honourable senators, I would not like to let this occasion pass by without a French-speaking voice joining with that of my colleagues to express our sadness at the loss we have sustained.

I met Senator Nicol several years ago at a time when he had already attained the pinnacle of success to which reference has been made in the speeches which we have just heard. He had the talent of bringing order in to everything he undertook. After seeing him at work in the field of finance as well as politics, I felt a great admiration for so gifted a man.

Senator Nicol, as was pointed out, had a very modest background. He travelled the sometimes difficult road of life without ever hurting or harming anyone, and in the various fields of his activity he showed talent, judgment and a driving energy for work which explain his great success and which led him to the highest place in Canadian politics and finance.

He was endowed with so much judgment that I am not surprised tonight to see that our English-speaking compatriots claim him as one of their own. As Provincial Treasurer of the province of Quebec, he occupied a post which had, until then, always been filled by an English-speaking person. In Quebec, however, perhaps even more than in the Eastern Townships, he was considered as a French-speaking citizen; indeed, the four daily newspapers he owned were published in French. Born of a family which considered the English language as its mother tongue, he had such a sound judgment that he managed to publish four French newspapers in four of the important cities of the province of Quebec, without ever annoying or offending the population, in majority French-Canadian, which he tried to educate through his newspapers.

In the field of finance, he was one of the most influential men of the province of

Quebec and his reputation certainly extended far beyond the limits of that province. As a politician and a business man he was widely appreciated. But it should be pointed out that after having climbed, as I said a moment ago, the sometimes difficult paths of life and having become well to do, he was one of the most charitable and the most generous men one could hope to meet. No one will ever know the number of families he helped, the number of young men who owe their education to him, the people to whom he gave not only sympathy, but often the things they could not do without and which he gave in such a way as not to humiliate them; very often it was Senator Nicol who helped these people to save their reputation and to keep a reasonable attitude toward life.

His achievements in the political field were undoubtedly due to his sound judgment and great talents. While representing a riding which was mostly English-speaking, he acquired in the Legislature at Quebec and also in the Legislative Council an extraordinary reputation. And in the Senate, all those who met him or who had anything to do with him soon came to trust him and often had recourse to his advice.

I take pleasure in joining with all my English- and French-speaking compatriots to say that, while Senator Nicol was one of our most highly esteemed citizens, we French Canadians found him most generous and will never forget him. I join with those who have spoken before me in offering Mrs. Nicol and the members of her family our most sincere sympathy. I would like them to know how deeply we will miss one of our wisest counsellors, whose memory will linger on.

(Text):

Hon. W. Rupert Davies: Honourable senators, as a fellow newspaper publisher of the late Senator Nicol, I feel I should say a few words for the record in regard to his newspaper publishing ability. In addition to being a very fine senator and able lawyer, Senator Nicol was also a most successful newspaper publisher. The story of his start and his success as he used to tell it, and as he has probably told it to the honourable Leader of the Government (Hon. Mr. Aseltine) on various occasions, is a fascinating one. He believed in picking good men for his newspaper staffs. He was honoured by his fellow newspaper publishers by being made a director of the Canadian Press, which is a dominion-wide news gathering organization. He also assisted the Canadian Press and the Canadian Daily Newspaper Publishers Association, which is concerned with the com-