

Parliament, having sat continuously as a Member since 1904. He had had much parliamentary experience, and spoke fluently in both languages, and was recognized as an outstanding leader in Parliament. I myself had had but a very few years of parliamentary experience. Though elected in 1908, and in the House until 1911, I was without a seat in the House between 1911 and 1919. I had not a seat in Parliament at the time the convention was held. Despite his longer parliamentary experience and his stronger claims, Lapointe resolutely refused to allow his friends to put his name forward at the convention and, instead, supported my candidature. From that time on, he gallantly accepted the role of lieutenant and associate, which, to the end, he filled with unswerving loyalty and magnificent devotion.

I like to feel that we shared together the succession of Laurier. While to me came the high honour of succeeding Laurier in the leadership of the party, his was the privilege of succeeding Laurier in the representation of the historic constituency of Quebec East, and with it the privilege of serving as the spokesman of his race to the people of the rest of Canada. Our long and happy co-operation was born of our common loyalty to a great Liberal and a great Canadian, and to the imperishable ideals which he cherished. I doubt if,