

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: My right honourable friend apparently thinks that the second set of documents is too voluminous, but that the first is not voluminous enough.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: It may not be.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: If perusal of the documents does not give my right honourable friend the information he is seeking, I shall answer him to-morrow.

The Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 3 p.m.

THE SENATE

Friday, September 8, 1939.

The Senate met at 3 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

THE LATE SENATOR O'CONNOR TRIBUTES TO HIS MEMORY

On the Orders of the Day:

Hon. RAOUL DANDURAND: Honourable senators, since separating in the early days of June last we have learned with sorrow that one of our colleagues, the Hon. Frank O'Connor, has left us. We had been aware that for the last two years his health had been far from good, and that he had in fact suffered from what, I believe, was a stroke. Nevertheless, we were in hopes that he would recover his health and return to share in our labours. But Fate decided otherwise, and at the age of 54 that once strong and active man has disappeared from our midst.

I confess that up to the time he entered this Chamber I knew very little of our late colleague, except through his activities in the industrial world and the founding by him of a chain of stores which distributed his goods throughout this land and the United States. He had a decided genius for organization, and by means of an article of special quality which was in demand he made his way up the hill and became one of the outstanding financial figures in the city of Toronto—a man of whom that city and Canada as a whole had reason to be proud. Since his entrance into this Chamber I learned of his generosity to charitable institutions of all kinds. He was popular throughout the community because of his geniality and big-heartedness. As he was not long among us,

we had little opportunity to judge of his opinions and work in the national field. We do know that in his life's short day he did a good day's work.

I am sure that all who knew the late Senator O'Connor mourn his sudden departure, and in the name of the Senate I desire to convey to his family a sympathy which I am sure is shared by all members of this Chamber.

Right Hon. ARTHUR MEIGHEN: Honourable members, those of us who were able to attend the last sad rites of Senator O'Connor were deeply impressed with the evidence everywhere to be seen of universal affection and esteem for the man. I doubt whether in many years I have ever seen more abundant evidence of this kind; certainly I never did in the case of one who was known only as a modest business man and good fellow and in virtually no other way.

The leader of the House has dwelt upon the late Senator O'Connor's success in business. It was indeed a very marked success, and resulted in very great wealth. Reflecting on that incident, I have thought how untrue is the all too prevalent belief that such wealth is drawn from the slender resources of others; that what attached to him was subtracted from someone else. His wealth accrued because he was able to give effect to a sound idea; to provide for humanity's wants in a more economical and better way than the average, or, indeed, any of his competitors. A great population benefited from his capacity. They did not lose.

It is a happy reflection that he regarded his wealth with that sense of trusteeship with which wealth should always be regarded, and that his later life at any rate, and I doubt not his entire business life, was marked by continuous and extraordinary benefactions. One thinks at a time like this there is, perhaps, nothing better for which a man could live than the goodwill of his fellows. One thinks, too, of the moment at which Providence was pleased to take Senator O'Connor away. To a man like him, who in his heart could not conceive of the necessity of making an enemy of anybody, the approaching noise and conflict of a battling world, a world he would not have liked, would probably bring the conclusion that his release was a happy one. The distress he would have suffered at this hour would have been beyond his strength, even were he strong.

I join with the leader of the Government in tendering our sympathy to the late senator's son and daughter, who, I know, revere his memory with deep affection.