

only five hundred millions, but I have thought it well to give publicity to this matter so that the citizens of Ottawa might prepare to receive all these people.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: The Gazette no doubt has in mind not only this generation, but posterity.

TRIBUTES TO DECEASED SENATORS

THE LATE SENATORS FARRELL, CURRY, CROWE AND SIR GEORGE FOSTER

Right Hon. ARTHUR MEIGHEN: Honourable senators, as is all too usual, we are called upon at the opening of the session in which we are now engaged to observe the absence from our midst of four honourable members who at the last sitting were among our number. A duty tinged with sadness devolves upon me of making reference to them, and I only fear that my lack of acquaintance with the House itself, and consequently a rather immature knowledge of the work of these honourable members in the House, render me an inappropriate person to discharge this task. However, I had the pleasure of knowing all the honourable gentlemen, and of close personal friendship with at least two of them.

He who was longest among us was probably the late Senator Farrell. He represented in this Chamber the Province of Nova Scotia. Prior to his entering the Senate he had a long record of services of a very practical character in the public life of that province. He did what some of us have not had the privilege of doing—something which qualifies a man very adequately and properly for service in higher spheres: he acted for a long time, both energetically and efficiently, upon public bodies of a municipal or provincial character. After a period of such service, extending over some years, he rose to the post of Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of his native province. From this high post he came to the Senate Chamber, and honourable gentlemen who worked with him here will bear testimony to the kindly and courteous character of the man, to his devotion to public service, and to the high esteem in which he was held by all. We deeply regret his demise.

Senator Curry was a man older in years and of different experience, an experience universally considered valuable for public service, especially in this Chamber of Parliament. Early in life he developed business talents of a high order. His experience was widened by a sojourn over a period of years in the United States of America. It was at an early age that he launched upon large

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ventures down in the Province of Nova Scotia, ventures which he pursued with such courage, capacity and tenacity as brought him at length to a high peak of fame and fortune in that province. His services in this House are well known, the regard in which he was universally held is acknowledged on all hands, and I need only mention his name to recall to honourable members everywhere his kindly disposition, the soundness of his counsel and the strength of his personality.

Senator Crowe was also a Nova Scotian by birth, having been reared and educated in the town of Truro in that province. He left for the West in the eighties, as a lad of nineteen, and grew up with the city of Vancouver. In that city he not only made a marked success in business as a contractor, but became one of the best known and best beloved citizens of that western metropolis. Retiring at an early age from commercial pursuits, he devoted himself to public service of a municipal character for a considerable time, giving all his energies thereto. He entered the House of Commons, where I was closely associated with him, in the darkness of the war years, and I only express what I know would meet with the ardent concurrence of members on all sides of politics in that Chamber, and indeed of all in this House, in which he later arrived, when I say that he became the friend of everyone, and because of his companionable qualities was affectionately regarded and esteemed by men of all shades of opinion and all creeds. Senator Crowe's demise was sudden and unexpected. To his widow, and as well to the families of those to whom I have previously referred, I know the sympathy of all honourable members goes out.

I come now to the oldest and foremost of all those whom we miss at this session, to the man who left the deepest and most lasting impression on the life of this Dominion. When I entered Parliament, almost a quarter of a century ago, Sir George Foster was perhaps the most brilliant and daring gladiator in the Lower Chamber. He was then at the summit of his great powers as a public speaker, and many of us sat at his feet and learned lessons from him in the conduct of the work of the House, and more particularly in the great art of public address and of debate, of which he was a master. On the platform his talents were displayed to perhaps even greater advantage than on the floor of the House of Commons. He had a wealth of simile which very few public speakers possess, and that gift he knew how to utilize. Never have I known him to push a metaphor too far; never have I known him to choose