

when, on questions which did not affect high policy, he indicated that at the time he was not in accord with those who for the moment took a particular stand. It is a matter of great pride and satisfaction to me to think that an old classmate of mine was here, and that he sat not far from me. To me his passing was a real sorrow, for I had a deep and affectionate regard for him which I find somewhat difficult to express in words.

The late hon. member for St. John-Albert, Mr. Ryan, represented the county in which I was born. He had experience in the profession to which I belong, and was also a journalist of repute, knowing something of its troubles, difficulties and problems. I saw him last fall in his native city of St. John where he was engaged in an inquiry. At that time I had some discussion with him, little thinking I should never see him again. He had a warm-hearted disposition, an attribute of his race. While on some matters we actively differed, our differences never in any sense interfered with our personal relations. I realize, as the Prime Minister has said so very aptly, his leaving us was on the threshold of what promised to be a very useful career.

Of the third supporter of the government who has departed this life, Mr. Verville, I knew very little. I observed that he was a faithful attendant in this chamber, and, although he expressed himself seldom in this house, he took a great interest in all public questions. The fact that he was elected four times by his constituents is in itself testimony to the place he held in their affection and regard. That he had their confidence indicates that he was no ordinary man in a county the size of that which he represented.

On behalf of those with whom I am associated I wish to express to the government our very great sympathy in their loss of three supporters, gentlemen who gave promise of being extremely useful as the years went by in the discharge of public duties. Of their loyalty and devotion to their party and government I think nothing need be said; it was apparent on every occasion upon which the opportunity offered. To the families of these distinguished gentlemen we extend our sympathy in their bereavement. We recognize in those who now are lost to this chamber, men who had been chosen by the people under our democracy to represent them in this house of parliament.

To deal with the loss which the Social Credit party has sustained is quite beyond me except to say that I knew Doctor Hall by reputation. He resided at Edmonton, two hundred miles north of Calgary. His coming

into this house to support the movement in which he believed was not unexpected when he received the nomination of his party. His careful attention to the debates in this house and his manifest intention at all times to make every possible contribution to the cause which he had espoused distinguished him as it does all those who so enthusiastically support their party. I trust I may be permitted on behalf of myself and those with whom I am associated to express my sympathy and sorrow.

To speak of the other two members who have left us is a task, if I may use that word, of great magnitude. Simon Fraser Tolmie had been known to me for many years. His father came to British Columbia by way of the isthmus of Panama. When I last saw Doctor Tolmie in his bed at the old farm not far from the centre of the city of Victoria he told me that he was born in that room; and in that room he died. He was born in the year of confederation, and had reached the age of seventy years.

Doctor Tolmie had a genius for friendship that few men have. He had a sense of humour and a ready wit. In the very nature of things his love of animals and of the land made him a respected and almost revered friend of agriculturists and cattle raisers. I think the tribute paid to him at his funeral in Victoria—I was not present but I read it—was as impressive a manifestation of grief on behalf of the people as could possibly be conceived. He was a friend of all men, and all men were his friends. It is not often that one may say that with sincerity.

He rendered two notable services to Canada. As Minister of Agriculture he had the courage to take steps that resulted in the eradication of mange from the prairies and ranges of western Canada. The steps that he took at that time caused much criticism, but he was determined to see the matter through, and he did. The result was that mange disappeared from our ranges.

The second service that he rendered to this country was of a different character. It must be known to all that for many years England declined to receive our cattle; an embargo had been placed against them on the ground of their health. When the matter was being discussed on one occasion at a meeting of the war cabinet in England an undertaking was given that this embargo would be removed at the termination of hostilities. This in passing enables me to pay a tribute to one whose memory is sometimes forgotten, the late Hon. Robert Rogers. He insisted at that time that the memorandum should be