Tributes to Members

I hope, Mr. Speaker, that this fifth session of the twentieth parliament will be productive of beneficial legislation and great good for our own country and that we may indeed make a contribution to world peace and concord.

Mr. Solon E. Low (Peace River): It is not my intention nor desire to multiply words, but I do want to associate myself and the group which I represent with the expressions of congratulations to all of those hon. members who have been promoted to the high offices that they now occupy on the other side. To the new members who have come into the house we express our welcome and our sincere desire that they have the finest possible experience here. May they feel when their work is finished in this house that they have been able to make a contribution to the welfare of this great dominion.

I wish to associate myself with the tribute by the Prime Minister (Mr. St. Laurent) to the hon. member for Glengarry (Mr. Mackenzie King). I too wish him long life, happiness and health. I could not help noting, Mr. Speaker, that on this first day of this new session the hon. member has chosen to come down into this section of the house, a good section. The next step up from little Chicago would be over here, and on the basis of the hon. member for Glengarry's speech in Prince Albert in 1935 I would expect that the next move would be right into the Social Credit ranks.

I compliment the Prime Minister on his elevation to the high office that he now occupies, and I assure him that our best wishes go out to him in his efforts to conduct the business of this house and of this country.

We also wish to join in expressing to the leader of the opposition welcome to this house. We hope that our relationships with him, and with all new members who have come into the house, will be as pleasant as our relationships were with his predecessor. I have always had the pleasantest personal relationships, and also relationships in this house, with the former leader, and I want to join with the other speakers in expressing my hope that the hon. member for Neepawa (Mr. Bracken) will continue in his improved good health and will enjoy long life and happiness.

In conclusion may I join with all those who have expressed their regret at the passing of Mr. Dubois. It is always a matter of regret when any one of our members passes away suddenly. We miss them. Our sympathy goes out to the bereaved ones and to all the members of the Liberal party who have lost a faithful colleague.

(Translation):

Mr. John T. Hackett (Stanstead): Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Progressive Con-[Mr. Coldwell.] servative party I would like to say a few words of regret on the occasion of the death of a friend and a colleague in the person of Mr. Dubois. Mr. Dubois represented a very prominent constituency, an almost historical constituency, a constituency which sent here men like Gaudet Méthot, and even one of your most illustrious predecessors, the Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux, for years a Speaker of this house. He too represented the Nicolet-Yamaska constituency. That constituency also numbered among its representatives a man of the highest abilities, the lamented and brilliant Paul-Émile Lamarche, who also died young, and one of the most eminent magistrates, one whose fame has spread abroad, Mr. Justice Trahan.

Mr. Dubois was first elected to the House of Commons nearly twenty years ago, at the same time I was. We did not belong to the same party but we shared the same interests. He represented an agricultural population and was particularly interested in the dairy industry. We thus became friends, as the electoral district which I represent has similar interests. He had a quite remarkable personality; he was meek and had qualities which enabled him to get elected in spite of the efforts of the two old recognized parties in this country. Unless I am mistaken, in the last general election he ran as an Independent candidate, as he did in the general election of 1940, and the loyalty of his friends and the services he had rendered to his electors assured his victory on several occasions. May I therefore lay a wreath on his recently-closed grave, a wreath scented with remembrances of loyalty, friendship, sincerity and modesty. Mr. Dubois was a farmer and, as was said, more than a farmer; he was an author, a historian and he dedicated himself to the relief of social distress.

I, therefore, wish to extend to his family, his friends and his electors whom he has served so generously, the tribute of his Conservative colleagues in this house.

(Text):

I will just add this one word in English before taking my seat. The late Mr. Dubois is deeply mourned by his Conservative colleagues. In his fidelity to all the charities of life, great and small, there was in this house no more complete, no more cultivated, no more Christian gentleman than the hon. member for Nicolet-Yamaska, whose passing we regret.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Right Hon. L. S. St. Laurent (Prime Minister) moved:

That a special committee be appointed to prepare and report with all convenient speed, lists of mem-