

through his efforts that the National Amateur Athletic Association, now known as "La Palstre Nationale", was founded.

In 1921 he was elected to the House of Commons, and was re-elected in the general elections of 1925, 1926, 1930 and 1935. He represented Canada at the International Labour Conference at Geneva in 1936, and was summoned to the Senate in 1940.

Senator St. Père is survived by his wife, the former Anna Gingras, and two children, Cecile of Washington, U.S.A., and Mrs. W. C. Appleton of Montreal.

It is inevitable, of course, that in a house such as ours, with a membership of upwards of one hundred, there should exist different degrees of intimacy between colleagues. I cannot claim that I knew our late colleague as intimately as others, but I remember quite well that when I was first appointed to the Senate, and later when I assumed the responsibility of the position which I now hold, the late Senator St. Père was one of the first to extend his good wishes.

Senator St. Père had a wide circle of friends, was particularly interested in the welfare of the younger generation, and during his long and active political career was most attentive to the interests of those he represented. He was a faithful attendant at meetings of the Senate and was exceedingly well versed in public affairs. He will be greatly missed by the many who knew him so well.

Hon. John T. Haig: Honourable senators, in the death of Senator Sinclair I feel as if I had lost one of my very dear friends from this chamber. When I came to the Senate some fifteen years ago he was one of the first members I got to know, because I had the pleasure and honour of knowing his married sister in Winnipeg, who for many years was my next-door neighbour. Even though he was on an opposite side of the house from me, I felt that in him at least I had a friend on whom I could depend. The years that followed taught me that John Sinclair did not take a stand on any question unless he thoroughly believed in it himself and thoroughly believed also that it was in the best interest of not only Prince Edward Island but of all Canada.

As has already been pointed out, he served as Chairman of the Finance Committee, but so far as I am concerned and so far as my colleague on my left (Hon. Mr. Aseltine) is concerned, the most outstanding service that he rendered here was on the Divorce Committee. That committee is constantly being battered about in this chamber and in another place, and it was always good to know that we could depend upon John Sinclair being

present at the committee's sittings every Monday, Tuesday, Friday and Saturday morning, to do his job there and do it well.

It is members such as John Sinclair who make this house what it is. They come here determined to give service to their own provinces and to Canada as a whole. I am sure that all my colleagues and I will miss him very much indeed. His widow and his family may well feel proud of the important work he did for Canada over a long period of years as a member of the House of Commons and of the Senate.

As to the late Senator St. Père, it was an unusual kind of friendship that developed between him and me. After a sitting of the Senate I used to love to drop into his room and listen to his conversation. He was interested in sports. So am I. And when he was in his place here and I had the pleasure of speaking, I was always sure of an ardent listener—especially if I spoke on the subject of rent control. I do not say that he took a very active part in the debates of this house, nor do I suppose that he took a very active part in the debates of another place; nevertheless he will be greatly missed, for he loved his country, and he thought that by training young men and young women in amateur sport he was making a great contribution. I entirely agreed with him. All Canada is indebted to the province of Quebec for the valuable service performed by this son of hers in stimulating interest on the part of young men and young women in sports and other healthful physical activities. I do not believe the juvenile courts would have so much work to do if the people of Canada realized that young people of the age of fifteen years and up, who have the energy for sports and do not participate in them, are very apt to fall into undesirable habits.

Hon. James P. McIntyre: Honourable senators, as the government leader has just told us, since we last met we have lost two highly respected members of this house, in the persons of Senator St. Père and Senator John E. Sinclair, one from the province of Quebec, and one from Prince Edward Island.

Prince Edward Island has produced some outstanding public men, but I think I can truthfully say that none were more outstanding than John Ewen Sinclair. His long political service to his native province and to Canada will forever stand as a monument to his memory.

The late senator was a member of the United Church at Summerfield and was superintendent of the Sunday school in that community. He was a member of the Masonic Order, and gave to it many years of useful service.