

To the family of Senator Roche and to that of Senator Bradbury we also extend our most sincere sympathy. Not only will these departed colleagues be missed by their families and their provinces, but I am sure the Senate will also miss their presence among us.

Hon. W. B. ROSS: Honourable gentlemen, I wish to join with my honourable friend on the other side in extending the sympathies of this Chamber to the wives and families of the members who so lately were with us, but are now with us no more.

In all that the honourable gentleman has said with regard to Sir James Loughheed he has not overstated the facts concerning that honourable leader. As he has referred to Sir James's early life and his business career in the West, it is not necessary that I should dwell upon those points; but on one or two phases with regard to Sir James I would like to say a few words.

I had no acquaintance with Sir James Loughheed until I became a member of this House, but for thirteen years I was on terms of intimate acquaintance, and I think I may say friendship, with him. During the whole of that period there never arose anything to interfere with our friendship. He was an excellent companion, owing to the fact that he had a very active mind. In all the years during which I was thrown very often in his company I never spent a dull five minutes: it did not matter where one was going, or what one was doing. If travelling in the cars through the country, and interested in the landscape, Sir James Loughheed was also interested in the scenery, the farms, and everything that was going on. He took great interest in railways, and there was no subject that could be mentioned on which he did not know at least something, and on many he was thoroughly well informed. I cannot imagine a greater benefit in the way of friendship that any man could enjoy than was my privilege in the friendship of Sir James Loughheed; and I never left his presence without feeling that I had learned something, or understood better the questions that I discussed with him. He was very helpful to me when I was trying to understand the ways of the constitution, and the methods of this House.

I should like to mention one point which I think was unique in the life of Sir James Loughheed, and which I have not yet heard mentioned. During the thirteen years of our acquaintance a great many men have come and gone from both sides of this House, but I say without reservation, after having talked to at least 90 per cent of the members of this House, that I never heard a man on either

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side of this Chamber who did not say that he liked Sir James Loughheed. That is a remarkable tribute to him, for this House has 96 members, and we might expect, as one of the most natural things in the world, that there would be some man who had a minor grievance, if not a major dislike. I never saw any trace of such.

I think the honourable gentlemen on the other side of the House will join me in saying that they admired Sir James Loughheed—his manner and his character, and the way in which he conducted the business of this House—practically as much as did the members sitting behind me.

There is another aspect of Sir James Loughheed's life on which we must look. Part of his life was passed during a critical period, when the fate of this Empire was at stake, and when he was one of the pillars of this country, one of the wise men who were trying to direct the country's affairs to a successful issue. Although I was not in the Cabinet, I was on Committees, and had opportunities to observe that there was no wiser head and no firmer will than the head and the will of Sir James Loughheed. His assistance to the Government of the day was of the very highest importance. The work that he did was well done in the service of his country. The more we investigate his life the more largely he figures in shaping the legislation of this country. I know, as a matter of fact, that his judgment on railway and tariff matters, and other questions of prime importance to the country very often prevailed. His name and work will occupy an important place in the legislative history of this country, as those who hereafter go through the records will find.

Coming to the leadership of Sir James Loughheed in this House, it would possibly be superfluous for me to say that he was a model leader. The feeling of attachment which was general on both sides of this House did not arise because Sir James Loughheed was a milksop, or because he gave every man what he wanted. Indeed, on the contrary, it was because he had a mind of his own, that was naturally predisposed to be fair, and to give every man a hearing, and not to press too far his powers as leader. He has said to me, and I have heard him say to other members of this House: "I would like your support on this question, but if after threshing it out you conscientiously think that you cannot support it, then you may vote against it." He secured the maximum of support from his followers, and retained their goodwill, and I cannot imagine a more adroit,