

policy before parliament. He was a very vigorous and energetic enemy, but there was no poison on his sword, and when the fight was over he was ready to be friendly and shake hands with his opponent. I cannot help recalling one instance which indicates that characteristic, the generosity which a really courageous man generally exhibits. On one occasion an attack was made upon a gentleman in this House, which the hon. gentleman from Quinté thought was not called for. He differed in politics from that gentleman, but Mr. Read stood up and defended in the most energetic and vigorous way his political opponent. I was very much impressed by it at the time. I never forgot it and I have thought it worth mentioning as illustrating his character. Most of you, hon. gentlemen, knew him, and you know that as far as his abilities went—and they were very considerable—he did his duty as a senator and as a Canadian in a most thorough way. I only hope that we may have in the future many gentlemen who will do their duty as well. Sir David Macpherson, when I came here, was, as everybody knows, a very conspicuous member of this House. At that time I was looked upon as being not very much more than a boy, and I stood in some awe of Sir David and got the impression that he was rather severe and austere to those who did not sympathize with him in politics; but I learned afterwards that that was really not the case, and that underneath his somewhat austere manner in the House, a very kindly heart was concealed; and when he came to be Speaker of the House, he made no distinction between the members of the two parties inside this House or out of it. The members of both parties were treated in the same way. Those two gentlemen who have gone, I trust, to their reward, were men of whom Canada has every reason to be proud and may be regarded as model citizens. We here are only doing our duty in emphasizing our sense of the loss which the country has sustained by their departure.

Hon. Sir OLIVER MOWAT—I think it is the desire of the House not to proceed with the orders of the day this evening, and I therefore move the adjournment of the House.

Hon. Mr. MILLER—I would suggest to my hon. friend to amend the motion and

move that the House do now adjourn out of respect to the memory of those two departed senators.

Hon. Sir OLIVER MOWAT—I have no objection.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—Does the hon. leader of the House accept the suggestion of the hon. gentleman from Richmond? If the motion is put in that way, I shall refrain from bringing under the notice of the House a matter that I intended to mention. If it is a mere motion for adjournment, then I shall take advantage of it to call the attention of the leader of the House to a subject which I consider deserves attention.

Hon. Sir OLIVER MOWAT—I have accepted the suggestion that we should adjourn out of respect for the memory of the two deceased senators.

The motion was agreed to.

The Senate then adjourned.

THE SENATE.

Ottawa, Wednesday, 26th August, 1896.

THE SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

A QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL.—Before the orders of the day are proceeded with, I desire to call the attention of the leader of the House to one or two statements made by one of his colleagues, the Hon. Mr. Blair, Minister of Railways and Canals, during the contest which has been proceeding in the county of Sunbury, N.B. I do so because I think the utterances reflect upon the honour of this House and its members, and therefore should not only be noticed by the members, but should be resented, if I may use that strong expression, by the government of which that gentleman is a member. I rise more particularly to ask my hon. friend who leads this House whether he, as the Minister of