

Perhaps one of Senator Horner's great accomplishments, if I may call it such, was the fact that he was the father of nine children, all of whom have distinguished themselves. I was told by a friend of mine in the West, who knew Senator Horner and his family well, that the Horner family was one of the finest to be found anywhere in Canada. They all met with great success in life. This must have been a cause of joy to Senator Horner and his gracious wife.

In his private life Senator Horner was a pioneer breeder of horses and a highly successful farmer in Northern Saskatchewan. He was also a director of the Canadian National Railways. All of this shows how diversified his interests were. He was indeed a man of many parts.

Senator Horner was summoned to the Senate on December 30, 1933, and shared the honour of being the co-dean of the Senate with our good friend Senator Aseltine. I believe that both were sworn in at the same time.

To say that our late colleague was one of the most colourful and dynamic members of the Senate is to put it mildly. He was a man who always called a spade a spade, and was never known to mince his words when he held convictions, either for or against you.

For these reasons, and I could list many more, Senator Horner was one of the most respected, beloved, and colourful men I have met in public life in Ottawa.

I often thought of Senator Horner as being similar to a character I read about in fiction in my boyhood. No doubt most honourable senators have read the novel entitled *David Harum*—the story of a very honourable man, and a great character who understood human nature and knew all about animals. He was also a shrewd businessman. I always thought of Senator Horner as being very much the *David Harum* of the present day.

The honourable leader mentioned the reception given Senator Horner by his two sons in honour of his 80th birthday last June 26. Many of us attended that function, and I particularly remember what Senator Horner said on that occasion. He said, "In my long, full life I have had much for which to be happy"—and, indeed, he had. "I enjoy good health and many friends." And he could have gone on to say, "I have a very fine family."

It has been mentioned that he always took an active part in our debates. I walked out of the chamber with him last week and as he left I said, "I will be very glad to see you back next week, Senator Horner." He said, "I am coming back. I am anxious to speak in the debate that is coming up on the flag."

Honourable senators, I would like the Leader of the Government to extend my sympathy to Senator Horner's widow and to his sons and daughters. Now I am going to leave it to my very good friend Senator Aseltine, who was associated with Senator Horner for so many years, to pay further tribute on behalf of those on this side of the house.

Hon. Walter M. Aseltine: Honourable senators, this is a very sad occasion for me, one of the saddest of my whole life. Byron Horner's sudden death was a great shock to me; it was the last thing I expected. When I passed through the City of Saskatoon on Saturday evening last I telephoned his residence to ascertain if he would be coming down on the same plane as I was, because he had said that he would be sure to be on that plane. However, I could get no answer, and so came to the conclusion that he had travelled on an earlier plane or by the C.N.R. Today when I heard of his sudden death I was very much surprised.

Honourable senators know that I was intimately acquainted with Senator Horner for many years. In fact, I knew him intimately even before he was made a senator. As has been stated by previous speakers, we were both summoned to the Senate on the 30th day of December 1933, and were sworn in on the same day. In addition to that, we occupied the same office in the Senate, room 471, for 25 years. Thus, I think I should know the man better than anyone else in this chamber.

It has also been stated that at the time he was summoned to the Senate he was a director of the Canadian National Railways and represented on that board the farmers of the Province of Saskatchewan. When he passed away he was the dean of the Senate. Now I suppose that I am the dean of the Senate, much as I regret the event that makes that possible.

Senator Horner had a colourful career. He pioneered in the Blaine Lake district in the Province of Saskatchewan, but was born in the Province of Quebec, across the Ottawa River, up near Shawville. He spent his early life lumbering, and he had some remarkable stories to tell of his experiences in the lumber woods, taking out timber and running it down the streams. He was a tough, capable lumberman in those days.

He grew up on a farm and became interested in stock raising of all kinds. His first advent to western Canada had to do with the shipping of horses to work on the farms before the west became mechanized. He spent many years doing just that. Later when the farms became mechanized he shipped horses for many years from west to east for use in the lumber woods.