

years when he was President of the Victorian Order of Nurses for Canada. He was at all times kind-hearted and ready to render what aid he could to the poor and needy. His memory, indeed, will long be cherished.

I may say, honourable senators, that I had the honour of being born in Dundas County, just a few miles from Morrisburg, and although I did not meet George P. Graham until he came to Ottawa, I often heard him spoken of most favourably when I was quite young. During the years he was in the Senate our friendship grew closer and closer, and his passing is to me a matter of deep personal regret. On behalf of those on this side of the House I join with the Leader of the Senate and other honourable members in expressing deepest sympathy to Mrs. Graham and her family.

Hon. FERNAND FAFARD (Translation): Honourable senators, those who have known Senator Parent, whose death occurred recently, will cherish his memory.

The son of a former Prime Minister of the province of Quebec, the late Senator Parent had inborn qualities as a public man and a business man.

George Parent was scarcely 25 years old when he was elected a member of the House of Commons, where for a number of years he had a brilliant career. He was firm in his political beliefs, and would have preferred to suffer defeat rather than disown his political principles.

As Speaker of the Senate he fulfilled his duties with the greatest dignity and with a fairness which reflects credit on his memory. Those who have known him in this House will retain a very favourable recollection of him.

Apart from being an outstanding political man, Senator Parent was a shrewd business man. His vision, his industry and his resourcefulness have brought him much success in the business world, where he was fully trusted.

In his death the city of Quebec has lost a man of great initiative and a good Canadian.

On your behalf, honourable senators, and in the name of his friends from the province of Quebec, I wish to tender to his family, and especially to Madame Parent and her two sons, Jacques and Simon, our heartfelt sympathy.

Hon. A. B. COPP: Honourable senators, at the beginning of a session of Parliament we are usually confronted with two phases of life here, one pleasant and one sad. In this Parliament, besides meeting old colleagues again, we have had the pleasure of welcoming four new members; and I want at this point to extend my congratulations to those members who have recently been sentenced to serve

life terms in this Chamber. I hope they may live long and enjoy public confidence to the full.

May I especially offer my congratulations to you, Mr. Speaker, on your accession to the position which you now hold. The Senate is fortunate indeed in having a gentleman of your qualifications, experience and ability, to preside over its deliberations. As we look back over the line of gentlemen who have preceded you in your high office, we are impressed with an outstanding record of ability and statesmanship. I feel sure, sir, that you will uphold the high traditions of your office and that when you retire from it your record will be quite equal to that of your predecessors.

This naturally brings me to the passing of our late friend Senator Parent. As has been said, he discharged his duties with such dignity, ability and impartiality as brought honour not only to himself, but also to this House.

I had the privilege of knowing Senator Parent more or less intimately for something like twenty-five years, having first sat with him, for a short time, in the other House. I always found him a congenial companion, and equally proficient in meeting friends socially or debating with adversaries on the floor of Parliament. I fully agree with all that has been said about him.

Senator Parent came into public service very early in life, being, I think, twenty-five years of age when he was first elected to the House of Commons. He served long, faithfully and well. He had a large legal practice and was associated with numerous business organizations. During the time he was with us he served his country well, doing what he believed to be in its best interests. I think that when we adjourned, a few months ago, none of us would have believed that he would be among the first to go. He was stricken suddenly in a hotel in the city of Montreal, and, I believe, never regained consciousness—another proof of the oft-made statement that in the midst of life we are in death. I join with my friends in offering my sincere sympathy to his family, who have been so sadly bereaved by his sudden passing.

It is much harder for me to refer to the loss of my very dear friend Senator Graham. I knew Senator Graham for a great many years, first meeting him officially in 1907, when he entered the House of Commons as Minister of Railways and Canals in the Government of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. From then on, I met him from time to time, but I became more intimately acquainted with him in 1921 and we have since been particularly close friends.