

In July last he received the highest honour at present in the right of Canadians to receive—membership in His Majesty's Imperial Privy Council.

My own relations with him were friendly. I often met him in Ottawa and on the trains. He was an engaging personality and a first-rate raconteur. Many times I have enjoyed my conversations with him.

He was a vigorous champion of his own opinions and of the aspirations of his compatriots.

His passing leaves a very distinct blank in the Government of the country. I desire to extend to my right honourable friend and to his followers my sincere expressions of sympathy and regret.

Mr. M. J. COLDWELL (Rosetown-Biggart): Mr. Speaker, we join in mourning to-day the passing of one whose life was both useful and full. That Senator Dandurand was what we seldom see in our own Dominion—and what we hope we may see more of in the years to come—a Canadian statesman with an international outlook, was recognized not only in our own country but in other countries of the world. He received distinguished honours at the hands of the people not only of Canada, but of France, from whose culture he derived so much inspiration. I shall always associate the late Senator Dandurand with the noble efforts that were made after the last great war to secure world peace. He was faithful to the ideals of collective security—sometimes called a noble experiment which failed; but I believe the day will yet come when upon the foundations laid by him and others like him will be erected a structure which will not fall and will not fail.

I did not know Senator Dandurand well, but I often used to see him in the corridors, and the picture which I shall carry in my mind as long as I remain in these associations is of a noble and friendly figure standing beside the Throne in the Senate Chamber, and bringing to my mind the words of Geoffrey Chaucer, "He was a verray parfit gentil knight."

Mr. J. H. BLACKMORE (Lethbridge): Mr. Speaker, naturally when one passes who has filled for so many years so large a place in the public eye as Senator Dandurand, the first reaction is one of shock and regret. But I believe that in the contemplation of this man's life and of his passing most people will feel that he has been blessed in his going hence as he had been in his living here. He has had a long, rich and abundant life, full of activity, full of striving for the ideals which guided him; a life crowned with a large measure of success. I do not know how anyone could ask of life anything finer. Now that he has closed that life without pain, without regret, I think there is cause for satisfaction and comfort.

We join with those who will extend sympathy to the bereaved ones, for no matter how far advanced one may be in years, when he passes there will be an empty place at the fireside and there will be hearts that are lonely because he is no longer here. To these we extend our sympathy and condolences.

Mr. THOMAS VIEN (Translation): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to represent the electoral division of Outremont, where the Government leader in the Senate resided. He often did me the honour of calling me his member. He was the most illustrious of my constituents.

The death of the Right Honourable Senator Raoul Dandurand, a member of His Majesty's Privy Council, Minister of State, dean of the Senate and Government leader in the Upper House, is mourned by all Canada and particularly by the province of Quebec. Over eighty years of age and suffering for some time from an illness which was undermining his robust constitution, Mr. Dandurand could have looked forward to the enjoyment of a well-earned rest.

In the face of the daily worsening situation, following the example of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and of the Right Hon. Ernest Lapointe, whose valiant comrade in arms he had been, he remained at his post and in the service of his country to the very end.

In the late Senator Dandurand Canada has lost one of her foremost statesmen; Quebec, an illustrious son who was an honour to her in all circumstances and who had the signal privilege of becoming President of the League of Nations; the French Canadians, an able leader and intrepid defender; the Liberal party, a wise and courageous adviser; the members of the Senate and of the House of Commons, a distinguished dean, a faithful friend, a great and generous soul.

We who for the past quarter of a century have been associated with him in the public life of Canada will ever miss his noble presence and eloquent voice.

There remains for us to imitate his virtues. His career is a shining example of what can be accomplished by us and for us French Canadians, when native ability is supplemented by personal effort, study, uprightness and the conscientious performance of the given task.

May our young men learn from him to improve with age, never to let obstacles discourage them, to develop their natural gifts by ceaseless effort, to cherish high ideals and ever strive to attain them. May they learn that, while the lower rungs of the ladder are overcrowded in every sphere, there is always room at the top for men of ability.

May they take from him lessons of wisdom, level-headedness and understanding; may they imitate him in his unshakable faith in the glorious destinies which Providence holds in store for the Canadian nation.

Inspired by his noble example, let us stand up to our daily tasks; let us strive to break the bounds of mediocrity, and to shake ourselves free of mental sluggishness. We shall then find strength to endure all trials, to overcome all obstacles, to persevere until final victory.

Thus shall we honour, as he would wish us to, the memory of this great Canadian.

BUSINESS OF THE SENATE

DISCUSSION

Hon. Mr. KING: Honourable senators, I had hoped that we might have some business to carry on with to-morrow, but I am informed that there will be no work for us this week,