

his opinions in the committee rooms and in this Chamber. His sound judgment was clear to all who listened to him. He was fair-minded, and, as I have said of my honourable friend who now replaces him (Hon. Mr. Willoughby), he was quite dispassionate in debate. He went directly to the root of the questions before him, examined them in the best interests of the country, and worked constantly to modify and improve the legislation which came from the other Chamber.

Senator Ross was a most valuable member. We all feel the loss to the Senate caused by his sudden departure, and I know that we shall long cherish his memory.

A few months ago we lost the honourable member from Brockville, Senator Webster. He had been in the dairy industry, and was quite active in all that pertained to it. He was an exporter. He knew all the intricate questions affecting that industry, or relating to transportation. The dairy industry throughout the world was familiar to him, and there was never a question affecting it, in whatever form it came before this Chamber, on which we did not have the benefit of his experience. He was an enthusiast, an optimist, in the development of agriculture in Canada, and it was always with pleasure that we listened to the information which he brought to the Senate.

I am sure that you will all join with me in extending to the families of Senator Ross and Senator Webster our most heartfelt sympathy.

HON. W. B. WILLOUGHBY: Honourable gentlemen, may I add a little to what the honourable leader of the Government has said of our two beloved and deceased members. I first came into contact with Senator Ross when he was Chairman of the Divorce Committee, and we sat on it together for a considerable time. It very soon became apparent to me that he had a fine legal mind. He was keenly interested in the legal aspects of the cases. I do not say that he was not interested in other aspects; he certainly was, to the extent of seeing that justice was done, but anything that pertained to the legal aspect was what interested him particularly. Up till practically a year ago it was his pleasure to confer with me now and again in reference to legal questions that arose before the Committee on Divorce.

The honourable leader of the Government has briefly recounted the history of Senator Ross, but I know a little chapter that is probably not known generally. I went west some time late in the last century, when the western

cities were very much smaller than they are to-day. I then heard of a young lawyer who had come from the East to the city of Regina. Judgments were rendered there at that time by a man, now for many years deceased, who had been a lieutenant-colonel. He was a stipendiary magistrate. In those early days, and for a considerable period, there was no High Court judge nor any other judge, but only a stipendiary magistrate, and there were no law libraries of any kind anywhere in the prairies of the Middle West. This stipendiary magistrate, with military training, rarely had anybody appearing before him on behalf of a client; so he became a little irked at any opposition. However, this young lawyer had the temerity to ask the magistrate what authority he had for the position he held in dealing with a certain legal matter before him; and the magistrate was quite horrified that anybody should question his authority for a proposition that he was laying down as law. This aggressive young lawyer in the end not only won out at the Bar, but insisted on the right to have the judge's opinion supported by authority, and not by a mere declaration of the judge's own view. That young lawyer afterwards told me himself that he went to Winnipeg and practised there for a time; and he was no other than the honourable gentleman to whose demise we are referring. He had a great legal mind. I think he excelled in what we might call chamber counsel—not necessarily in court, but in the giving of advice—because he was a profound student. Anybody who knew his personal habits knew that when out on his walks he would hammer out his thoughts and clarify them in his own mind. He was always thinking, always of a most active turn of mind.

He was kindness itself to everybody in this House, and he was courtesy itself to everybody on the other side. He was absolutely without affectation, simple in his habits, approachable at all times. There will never be, in this or any House, a leader who will be a more lovable character than was Senator Ross.

As for Senator Webster, I came into contact with him early. I entered the Senate in 1917, when the Senate was sitting in the Museum Building, and he was my room-mate during all the time we were there, until we moved to this building.

Senator Webster was genial, kindly, and intensely human. I know he loved a good horse, and what is more, he liked to drive a good horse.