

function in the Senate was the unveiling of his portrait in the chambers of the Honourable the Speaker. That was a very pleasant occasion for all of us although, apparently in his condition of health, very trying for him.

Senator Smith had a most outstanding career. I am always happy to point to the fact that he was born in Ottawa. But that did not deter him from becoming a distinguished citizen of the Province of Saskatchewan, where he contested a seat in the Legislature unsuccessfully. He moved on to British Columbia where he had a distinguished career in business and was a member of the British Columbia Legislature, beginning in 1949. He was summoned to the Senate in 1957. It is difficult to visualize the change in his demeanour between the years when he was here as a private member and the latter few times that we saw him. As a private member he was very active in the Senate, and he did a tremendous amount of work in connection with one of the most important of the international organizations to which we give our support, that of the Canada-United States Interparliamentary Group. He was, I think, one of the original persons appointed to represent this Senate at meetings of that extremely important body, and he did a great deal of work there through the years to foster good relations between legislators in the United States Congress and those in the Canadian Parliament.

Mr. Speaker, perhaps the crowning achievement of Senator Smith's career in the Senate was his work in occupying the chair which you now occupy, sir.

Mrs. Smith, who died while the Senator was in office, was a great help to him. Her death, I know, was not only a blow to him but to all of us. He remarried; and his second wife endeared herself to us very greatly indeed. We shall miss Syd Smith very much, and we shall miss the kind of contribution he made to the work of this chamber.

Honourable senators, during the Christmas adjournment we had another resignation, that of Senator Vaillancourt. To my mind, Senator Vaillancourt was one of the most distinguished sons who ever came out of the Province of Quebec. He became a senator in 1944. Before he came here he was active in the *Caisse Populaire* movement and in many other business enterprises. But it is of his charity and of his personality that I would speak, more than of his activities.

I remember the occasion when, on the visit of the Queen to Quebec, some considerable

apprehension was expressed about possible demonstrations there, and precautions were taken regarding them. I can remember—and those who were here will never forget—Senator Vaillancourt coming into the Senate and talking about the Queen, about the Royal Family, the significance of that institution for this country, for the Commonwealth, for the world. I remember his saying that if there had been apprehension about the reception the Queen was to have in Quebec, it was caused by people who were there purposely to make trouble, it was not to be attributed to the people of Quebec as a whole. On that occasion, I think Senator Vaillancourt was expressing the true voice of Quebec, and it was to me a most moving and salutary kind of speech to make in the Parliament of Canada.

He was deputy leader of this house all through the period of Senator Ross Macdonald's leadership from 1957. When I had the privilege of leading here he was my deputy until his health failed, and I cannot thank him enough for his help and support.

Senator Vaillancourt is a gentleman of the highest standard, one to whom we would all give our trust. We will all miss him greatly because of his character and the kind of work he did here.

Hon. Jacques Flynn: Honourable senators, Senator Connolly (Ottawa West) has mentioned the retirement of Senators Sydney J. Smith and Cyrille Vaillancourt. Another senator has also retired, in compliance with the rule which has been in effect since 1965. I speak of Senator MacKenzie. On the day that we adjourned for the Christmas recess we had occasion to express our appreciation to Senator MacKenzie for his contribution, and our regrets at seeing him go.

At this time I merely wish to say that I concur in everything that Senator Connolly has said about our former Speaker, Senator Sydney Smith. On October 10 last we unveiled the portrait of the former Speaker, and on the same day it was announced that, in accordance with custom, he had been appointed a Privy Councillor. On that occasion we expressed to Senator Smith our affection, admiration and thanks.

Regarding Senator Vaillancourt, having known him more closely I would like to say a few words about him, and I think it is appropriate that I should express myself in French.