

The late M. A. Hardie

He had a brusqueness of manner which was never able to conceal a warm heart and generous disposition. That is one of the reasons why he had friends in all parts of the house. He was hard hitting in debate but he never allowed his hard hitting to extend beyond the confines of this chamber. He was above all, Mr. Speaker, as the Prime Minister has indicated, a man of the north. He was passionately dedicated to serving that great part of our country, to advancing its progress and its welfare.

In his later months he served under conditions of much pain and some weakness. I happen to know that he knew many weeks before he died that the end was as certain as human things can be. I remember saying to him when he had made up his mind to go to Yellowknife last summer that I thought it was unwise for him to go so far at that time. He replied: "I am the member for that constituency and I am going to be there to greet the Prime Minister when he arrives," and he was there. He served in circumstances that would have daunted anyone of less courage. Neither pain nor weakness prevented him from doing his duty up to the very end. While neither medical science nor prayers could save him for further life on this earth, he will long live in the memory of the members in this house, all of whom were his friends, and in the memory of the many friends he had throughout the country. So I join the Prime Minister in tribute to him and in extending our deep sympathy to his bereaved and saddened family.

Mr. Hazen Argue (Assiniboia): I should like to associate the members of this group with the very eloquent and moving tribute paid to Mervyn Hardie by the Right Hon. Prime Minister and by the Leader of the Opposition. We counted Merv Hardie a very great friend. We recognized his great courage and sincerity, and we acknowledge that he worked unceasingly in the interests of the people he represented in the House of Commons.

Merv Hardie was a product of western Canada and the Canadian north. He grew up in Saskatchewan in the hungry thirties. Nothing came easy to him. A substantial part of his schooling was obtained at that little prairie university conducted and administered by Father Athol Murray of Notre Dame of Wilcox, and at great sacrifice to himself he was able to acquire an education in very difficult times.

He served his constituents and our nation faithfully and well until the very end, and particularly at the time of his passing our thoughts were with Mrs. Hardie and the children.

[Mr. Pearson.]

We know that Merv Hardie gave his all, not only of himself but of his financial resources to the serving of the nation. At this time perhaps I may say for our group that we feel parliament should consider this and other like instances so that at some future date we may take appropriate steps in order that in circumstances like these the financial suffering for those who are left behind may be minimized.

We join with the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition in extending to Mrs. Hardie and the family our very deepest sympathy.

THE MINISTRY

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF MINISTERIAL CHANGES—
APPOINTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY
SECRETARIES**

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister): At this time it is usual, if there have been any changes in the ministry, for notification to be given to the house. I would first point out that Hon. Paul Comtois, who represented the constituency of Nicolet-Yamaska, was appointed lieutenant governor of the province of Quebec on October 6, 1961. Thereupon there was a vacancy in the portfolio which he held. This vacancy has been filled by the appointment of the hon. member for Quebec South, Hon. Jacques Flynn.

Furthermore, the presidency of the Queen's privy council for Canada has been given to the hon. member for Bellechasse, Hon. Noel Dorion, Secretary of State.

It is customary also to refer to the parliamentary secretaries and the appointments to which they have been allocated. Before doing so I wish to mention the fact that the former parliamentary secretary for external affairs, the hon. member for Oxford (Mr. Nesbitt), for reasons of business and the other claims that come to those young men who serve in public life, found himself unable to carry on in this position. Regretting the fact that that is so, I want to add as well the appreciation of the government, and I think of Canada as a whole, of the services he rendered in the United Nations on behalf of this nation.

The following are the appointments to the parliamentary secretaryships. There has been very little change.

To the Minister of Transport the member for Hamilton East (Mr. Martini).

To the Minister of Justice the member for Saint John-Albert (Mr. Bell).

To the Minister of Finance the member for Carleton (Mr. Bell).

To the Minister of National Health and Welfare the member for Huron (Mr. Cardiff).