

when I was a young member. I heard him tell the workers that he had a worker's horny hands. Never was he ashamed of his birth. He was very modest and unassuming. In this house, where he attended sittings so regularly, he spoke seldom but always to the point. We knew him to be ready at all times to help and encourage his younger colleagues, as the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggar (Mr. Coldwell) recalled a moment ago; even though he might not share their views, he never hesitated to send them a word of cheer.

He felt perhaps that it is the new generation which will bear the brunt of the debts which have been piled up for some time, upon the people of this country and that the new generation must be thoroughly trained to govern the country and prevent the ship of state from going down upon such reefs.

While congratulating those who have spoken on this occasion and who have eulogized the two members who are sadly missed, it seems to me that this eulogy should not be confined to the parliamentary guide and that Mr. Cardin's ideals must survive so that the new generation may know what were his plans for Canada.

He discussed contentious matters, such as controls; he spoke as a true parliamentarian, as a man who wants parliament to be the master of the country's affairs. If some hon. members wish to refresh their memory, all they have to do is to glance at the speeches which he made on February 9 and May 6 in regard to the prerogatives of parliament and controls.

I have here a few excerpts from his speeches which I would like to place on the record so that the young men of today and of tomorrow may know Mr. Cardin as a most sincere, unselfish and devoted patriot. For instance, on July 23, 1942, he said:

I have a thousand times reason to say that this House of Commons is not master of itself; it is obeying, it is working according to the wire-pulling of a small group in our country who is trying to serve their own interest.

Almost every step that has been taken up to the present in the prosecution of the war has been taken as a result of the threat of a motion or amendment being moved by the opposition, and because of the fear that such a motion or such an amendment, if proposed would destroy to a certain extent the strength of our party in the House of Commons.

And on February 9, 1943, he said:

I hope we are not going to take advantage of the situation created by the war to deprive the provinces of the privileges and exclusive rights guaranteed them by the pact of confederation, without adopting some other satisfactory method which would protect minorities and guard the provinces against a central organization in Ottawa.

For the benefit of a member who had pointed out that Canada had not been invited to the conference of Roosevelt and Churchill at Casablanca, to whom the government had given lengthy explanations, Mr. Cardin made an historical comparison, saying:

That reminded me of a little story regarding a visit which Emperor Napoleon paid to a little town in France. He was received by the mayor of the locality who explained to him that for various reasons they could not fire a gun in his honour on his arrival. In fact the mayor said that he had fifteen reasons for not having fired a gun, and he proceeded to enumerate them: "First, we have no gun." Napoleon interrupted him and said, "Well, I do not want to hear about the other reasons; that suffices me."

The fact that Canada has not been invited to Casablanca, stated Mr. Cardin, is an adequate reason to prevent it from being represented at that meeting. I do not feel mortified by this, because I realize that the war is being conducted by the great nations. Let us not forget that we play a secondary role in the decisions to be taken and we have no reason to complain of having been left out. We should not lose our bearings in a sense of exaggerated pride. His tone was prophetic, when he stated, on May 6, 1943:

Canada plays a secondary role in this war, and will play a secondary role when the treaty of peace is drafted, and we are paying more in taxes and more in general expenditures toward this war than any other country.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am sorry to interrupt the hon. member, but I understand that the practice in this house, when the business is suspended to express sympathy and condolences for a deceased member, to limit the observations to simple expressions of regret. I trust that the hon. member does not wish to take up too much of the time of the house and that he will comply with the established practice.

Mr. POULIOT: Mr. Speaker, when I speak of Mr. Cardin, when I quote from his short speeches, and I will be brief—I am extremely astonished to be interrupted by Your Honour. Mr. Cardin expresses the ideals of liberalism in the province of Quebec and the whole country. Mr. Cardin was a builder of the Liberal party and if, Mr. Speaker, he had not spoken the way he so often did to the people of Montreal, you, Mr. Speaker, would not be in the chair which you now occupy and the Liberal party would have fewer representatives than now sit on this side of the house. Never has anyone moved the people as profoundly as Mr. Cardin did. His hold on them was due to his sincerity and the fact that his heart beat in unison with those of the whole population.