

came to Halifax to attend the Medical College at Dalhousie, and from 1916 our political careers ran almost parallel.

Before I proceed further I wish to correct an error in the biographical sketch of our late colleague which appears in the Parliamentary Guide. He is said to have been elected to the House of Commons in 1925, but defeated in 1926. Dr. Macdonald was never defeated. He ran in three elections to the Nova Scotia Assembly, as my honourable friend from Margaree Forks (Hon. Mr. MacLennan) has already said, and was elected every time. He resigned in 1925 to accept the federal nomination. He was victorious at that election and again in 1926 and in 1930. He resigned his seat to make way for our late colleague, Senator Rhodes, then Premier of Nova Scotia, whom the Right Honourable R. B. Bennett had invited to join his Cabinet.

Dr. Macdonald was a loyal and devoted friend; braver heart never beat within human breast; and, as the honourable gentleman from Margaree Forks has just said, his outstanding virtue was charity. The strongest evidence of that is to be found among the people of his native constituency of Richmond. I never saw a greater tribute paid to any man—and I have attended the obsequies of many, great and small—than was paid to Dr. Macdonald at the time of his funeral by the children and the youths whom, as he often boasted to me, he had brought into the world, and by the poor women and men whom he had attended in serious illness. They passed by his bier in what seemed to be a never-ending procession, and it was touching to see them shed tears over the man who had been their friend and physician for thirty-five years. As the mourners came out of church there was not a dry eye among them; women and children could not control their grief, and many men took their kerchiefs to wipe their eyes when the casket was taken to its final resting place.

I shall miss him as a warm friend and a loyal colleague. May his soul rest in peace.

THE LEADER OF THE SENATE

FELICITATIONS ON HIS APPOINTMENT

On the Orders of the Day:

Hon. C. C. BALLANTYNE: Honourable senators, I rise on the Orders of the Day to convey to the new leader on the Government side (Hon. Mr. Robertson) not only my own warmest personal congratulations and good wishes but those of every one of my colleagues on this side of the House. Ever since the honourable gentleman was summoned to this

Chamber he has taken a deep and keen interest in all legislation and other business that has engaged our attention from time to time. I recall with pleasure the very important and outstanding speeches he has made during past sessions. The Government, to my mind, has made a very wise choice, for the honourable gentleman has on his side not only ability but youth.

May I congratulate him also on being created a member of the King's Privy Council for Canada and a Minister without Portfolio.

I can say to the honourable leader that throughout the five sessions during which I have been privileged to lead the party on this side, I always received at the hands of the late Senator Dandurand, and subsequently of my good friend His Honour the Speaker, when in turn he occupied the position of Government leader, the closest and most cordial co-operation. Never in the history of Canada have there been such colossal problems to be dealt with as now lie ahead. I am quite sure that my honourable friend will extend to the leader on this side the same cordiality and co-operation that his two predecessors did, and I assure him that he can rely on support from this side of the House for all the sound and sane legislation that is brought before this Chamber. We, of course, reserve the right to make helpful suggestions and to criticize when it appears justifiable.

I hope my young friend may have many years in which to enjoy the prominent position he now holds, and in conclusion would say that he has not only my best wishes but those of all my colleagues on this side of the House.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Hon. WISHART McL. ROBERTSON: Honourable Senators, I find it difficult to respond adequately or to express my appreciation of the very kind reception which I have had from individual senators and from the honourable leader opposite, both personally and in his official capacity. I do not need to say that my experience has been very limited, and that therefore I must ask of honourable senators who have had more experience than I not only their forbearance but their assistance.

For my part, I shall endeavour as best I can to uphold the institutions and traditions of this House, and I shall do all that lies within my power to increase the already great influence which it wields in the public life of this country.

I thank my honourable friend opposite for his very kind expressions of good will and assistance. I appreciate them more than I can say, and will do my utmost to live up to his hopes.