

were two reasons for this: one was the milder climate and the second was the fact that he had a daughter living there whom he cherished dearly. On going to Vancouver he entered the Shaughnessy Hospital, where he died a short time ago.

Many senators here today and indeed many who have gone before were frequently in Dr. Blais' room on the first floor consulting him on their various ailments. He was always kind, thorough, and gave them the best advice any medical man could give.

I know both his daughters, one of whom is now living in Pasadena, married to a doctor, and the second living in New Westminster. On my own behalf and on behalf of my wife I wish to extend my deepest sympathy to our late colleague's dear widow and daughters on their sad bereavement.

*(Translation):*

**Hon. Jean-François Pouliot:** Honourable colleagues, as a French Canadian from the province of Quebec, I wish to join with those who paid well-deserved tributes to the late Senator Blais, whose first name was Aristide. It was a predestined name, because he was a just man.

*(Text):*

I was just saying in French that the first name of the late Senator Blais was Aristide which is symbolic of a man who is just. Aristides was a Greek, well known for his spirit of justice.

*(Translation):*

Honourable colleagues, I met the late Senator Blais here in the Senate. I admired his punctuality. Despite the infirmities which afflicted him during his last years, he regularly attended the meetings of the Senate to show his sense of duty and to prove that he was interested in the matters we were discussing.

One of the most intimate friends of the late Senator Blais was the Right Honourable Ernest Lapointe who was his university classmate—there was only one year's difference in their ages—and who told me that he had the deepest admiration for the late Senator Blais.

Born in the small parish of Berthier, in the county of Montmagny, the late Senator Blais, at the beginning of his career, conquered the province of Alberta where he practised medicine and surgery with selfless devotion and a wonderful spirit of charity, which were recalled by our colleague, Senator Gershaw. He was the physician to the poor. He treated them with the same devotion as he would treat his wealthiest patients.

I shall never forget Senator Blais' wonderful smile. Whenever I met him, he wore a kind and gracious smile. He liked to recall his experiences in the West and was quite

fond of his adopted land, the Province of Alberta.

It is always a moving experience to attend sittings like this one, where we pay tribute to the departed. I have listened to many final tributes and each one conjured up deep memories.

We all spend our time together here under the same roof. We have our difficulties, our problems. Our views often differ. But each one of us is trying to do his best, and that is what has been recalled by all those who have so eloquently spoken of the late Senator Blais.

In passing, may I say that one of our colleagues in particular did a great deal to help Senator Blais before he died. I am talking about Senator Arthur Beaubien who looked after him like a brother and helped him in many ways. It was a gesture of good fellowship. It is a worthy example I am happy to mention, even at the risk of disclosing a secret.

Honourable senators, I join with all those who spoke before me to extend my wife's deepest condolences and mine to Mrs. Blais, widow of the late senator, and to his daughter, in their sad bereavement.

*(Text):*

**Hon. T. A. Crerar:** Honourable senators, as a representative of the vast prairie country in which Dr. Blais spent the greater part of his life and service, I wish briefly to pay tribute to his memory. The late Dr. Blais belonged to a generation that has gone; he was a friend of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and Sir Wilfrid died more than 45 years ago. Our late colleague was among the first to enlist in the medical service during the World War of 1914-1918, and he distinguished himself, as the leader on this side of the house (Hon. Mr. Connolly, Ottawa West) so eloquently pointed out in his remarks. He ended his career in the service as a lieutenant-colonel in charge of a clearing station where the men broken in battle were first treated and looked after. That was one of the most honourable posts in which a medical officer could serve.

Senator Blais was a man of great charm. He belonged to a generation that valued highly grace, charm and courtesy and all those amenities that mean so much in life. He was a distinguished surgeon. I recall an occasion 40 years ago in Alberta when his name was mentioned to me as that of the leading surgeon at that time in the City of Edmonton.

He served in the war. He served humanity in his profession. He was a fine and honourable citizen who in his way admirably served his country. We can all agree that his passing leaves us a little bit poorer than we were.