

Throughout those years, we came to know the numerous qualities of Senator Pouliot and those who knew him well will not soon forget his fighting spirit, his sense of detail and his working capacity. The resignation of Senator Pouliot deprives the house of a member both colourful and very lovable. For my part, because of ties of friendship with my family, I feel a very deep personal loss.

On my own behalf, and on behalf of my colleagues, I wish Senator Pouliot a peaceful retirement, which in any event he well deserves after having dedicated himself to his fellow citizens for such a long period of time. We also take this opportunity to extend our respectful compliments to Mrs. Pouliot.

[English]

On March 26 Senator Gershaw resigned from this chamber and less than three months later he passed away. He had a long career as a surgeon, and he doubled that career with a political life which lasted for almost half a century. Senator Gershaw was first elected to the House of Commons in 1925 after an unsuccessful attempt in 1921. He was re-elected in 1926, 1930 and 1940. He was summoned to the Senate in 1945, and served here for 23 years.

Senator Gershaw was a kind and sociable man; he was a very human person. Because of this he had no enemies, only friends. We shall cherish his memory. On behalf of the Opposition I wish to convey our deepest regrets to his wife and their children.

Honourable senators, I have kept for my conclusion my comments on the resignation of Senator Wallace McCutcheon.

Senator McCutcheon resigned to seek a seat in the other place. Our loss would have been a gain for the Commons; but, unhappily, the electors decided otherwise. Consequently, Parliament and Canada are deprived of the services of a most competent man who, during the years he was with us, displayed his unique qualities in the field of administration and finance. We on this side will miss him very much, because he was a highly valued adviser. The Senate also will miss him, and I wish that circumstances—be it inspiration to the Prime Minister, provoked by the Leader of the Government—will allow his re-entry here.

Hon. Senators: Hear, hear.

Hon. Donald Cameron: Honourable senators, I do not wish to trespass on your time for very long, and I shall not be able to pay tribute as eloquently as did Senator Connolly to those members who have resigned or passed to the Great Beyond.

As a lifelong friend and colleague of Senator Gershaw, I could not let the opportunity pass without saying a word about him and the place he occupied in his native Province of Alberta. It is true that he did not have the advantage of being born in Alberta. Having started out in Manitoba, he graduated from the University of Manitoba School of Medicine. At a very young age he moved to the Province of Alberta, where he became that most revered of all people in a pioneer community, the general country practitioner.

In the early days of the horse and buggy, the team and democrat, and at a later date in a Model T Ford, he traversed the plains area of Alberta, tending the sick, making friends everywhere, and above all, taking an interest in the work in the schools. He took a tremendous interest in young people, and right up to the last two or three years he made a practice of visiting all of the schools in the old Medicine Hat constituency.

As was said by Senator Connolly and Senator Flynn, he was elected to the House of Commons in 1925, 1926, 1930 and 1940; and he lost out in 1921 and 1935. In other words, he had a batting average of .666—which in baseball parlance is a pretty good average.

In addition to his many qualities as a humanitarian and as a physician and surgeon, he served his community on the school board and in many other ways. He served as a local historian, writing stories of the pioneers; and he assisted many persons to scholarships and helped them get further education.

In the years when he was in the Senate he always had something to say and he said it well. He had the respect and confidence of all of his colleagues.

I would like to join with the other honourable senators in paying a tribute to a fine Canadian who has left a pioneer country much better for his having been there.

Hon. M. Grattan O'Leary: Honourable senators, I crave your indulgence for just a few moments. I agree entirely with the very moving tributes to those who have departed from us, some in life and some in death. I felt I should say a word this evening about one who, for more than half a century, was my dear and tender friend, Charles Gavan Power.

When Senator Power published his book last year, he sent me a complimentary copy and on the flyleaf of it he wrote this:

To note the remarkable fact that through fifty years of disagreement about