

gathered in their wake many of the other delegations, and our colleague was elected by a comfortable majority.

At his inauguration as president the senator spoke first in French, according to tradition, as 80 per cent of the discussions were carried on in that language. As he ended his oration, the official interpreter—a man of universal reputation as such—rose, as usual, to give the English translation. The senator waved him gently aside and made his speech anew in perfect English. The audience, astonished and enthused, gave him a rousing acclamation. Statesmen of Europe are not accustomed to such perfect bilingualism. Dandurand knew but the rudiments of the English language when he was young, but he toiled incessantly and perseveringly until he mastered it.

Dandurand was an indefatigable worker. The tasks confided to him were numerous and often difficult. He accepted them all without complaint, and fulfilled them with devotion, and, by reason of his great ability, almost always with success.

France could not but recognize the outstanding merit of the senator, and a few years before the war he was named a member of the great Institute of France—a very rare and highly prized honour. To celebrate his nomination a magnificent banquet was tendered to the senator in Paris, at which most of the important men of France were present. Our colleague made a ringing speech which brought the guests to their feet, cheering lustily. The senator had made an appeal for the collaboration of France in an effort to spread the highest possible French culture in Canada.

That collaboration he obtained from the French Government, from the French clergy through that most eminent prelate, Cardinal Verdier, of Paris, and from the Collège Stanislas, one of the outstanding educational institutions in France. Shortly after his return he also procured the substantial support of the Government of the province of Quebec and the city of Outremont, and secured contributions from some of his friends, and himself made the most generous gift. The Collège Stanislas of Canada is now almost ready for occupancy. It is a beautiful and most modern building. The professors are all fully licensed educators; none better can be obtained from France. The college is affiliated to the University of Paris. In a few months, a few weeks perhaps, hundreds of students will begin to benefit from the highest education bestowed in France or probably anywhere in the world.

Since 1937 the senator has devoted himself to this highly meritorious purpose. He conceived and built the college almost unaided.

Hon. Mr. BEAUBIEN.

Such help as he obtained was due to his untiring efforts. Higher education, he knew, was the most precious gift he could leave to his compatriots, and his legacy will for all time serve his compatriots and bear witness to his public-spiritedness; for Dandurand was a great patriot.

There is a side of the senator's life that is little known, except to the many people whom he helped. Demands for succour abounded. Every apparently meritorious case he had investigated by the branch managers of his own bank, and if their report was satisfactory, his instructions were to give the necessary help and charge it to his account.

But, beside it all, the senator was a lovable man. Of that I need say nothing in this House, where he was so well known and so highly esteemed. A week ago almost to the hour, after giving the Senate explanations respecting the treaties of commerce with Argentina, Brazil and Chile, as the House adjourned and he passed before a group of his colleagues, he was singing gaily an old love song of Quebec. Some of us were filled with astonishment. Here were youth, vigour, undiminished interest in life, optimism always dominant. Life was an adventure for him, each new task another friend. Every day the sun for him seemed to rise brighter and his work to be more attractive. In fact the last day of his life he rose feeling in perfect spirits. He told me so, shortly after being stricken. He never uttered a complaint, and he died peacefully, almost in the midst of his intensive work. Such a death he would have wished.

The State funeral was most impressive, as many here can bear witness. The Prime Minister was extremely kind to his colleague. Without his efforts I doubt whether accommodation could have been found at the hospital. Twice he visited the senator during the day. He took a keen personal interest in the funeral. All the members of this House and the many other friends of the senator will be deeply grateful to him.

I have one more word to add. It is of a personal nature and for that I crave the indulgence of the House. As a result of a Canadian delegation to France in 1916, the purpose of which was to develop commerce between that country and our own, a trade agreement was entered into by the Governments of both countries. It was resolved that an exhibition train laden with French goods should circulate through Canada, and a similar train bearing Canadian products should be sent around France. The French train came to the Dominion in 1921 and was such