

Hon. L. M. GOVIN: Honourable senators, as a member on this side of the House, I too wish to pay tribute to the late Senator Rainville, whom I knew for at least twenty-five years. He was indeed a very good friend of all the members of my family, and my relations with him were always most pleasant and most charming.

From time to time we used to meet and, putting aside our political differences of opinion, we would have long talks about our national problems, and thus, as we say in French, *de cette modeste façon, nous essayions de sauver le pays*: we were in this modest way trying quite earnestly to save our country. The main topic of our conversation used to centre around co-operation between our two great races as it would affect the future of Canada. He took a deep interest in such questions.

Senator Rainville was also remarkably well acquainted with our economic conditions, and, as is well known, his addresses on the St. Lawrence waterways were carefully prepared and authoritative.

He knew intimately the country people of Quebec, the good habitants, and also the settlers in our colonization outposts. He was a philosopher who knew how to smile—*un philosophe qui savait sourire*. Happy on a farm, he was happier still in the bush, or in a yacht or canoe, hunting or fishing, for he was an excellent sportsman.

Our late friend deeply loved his country and had at heart the welfare of his race. He was eager to promote peace and harmony with our English-speaking fellow-countrymen, and also with our great American neighbours. Senator Rainville was a man of goodwill, and his friends will always remember him as a perfect gentleman whose greatest satisfaction was to be of service to others and to make all those around him as happy as possible.

#### BUSINESS OF THE SENATE

Hon. Mr. KING: Honourable senators, I regret to say that our Order Paper is blank, and that there are no messages from the House of Commons. I think those of us who have had experience in the other House will recognize the difficulty of that House providing much for us at this time, since most of the measures engaging its attention are related to Canada's war effort, and many of them are now before its select or special committees.

I understand that we shall have some business before two of our committees next Thursday morning, and I now move that when

Hon. Mr. MICHENER.

the Senate adjourns to-night it stand adjourned until 3 o'clock on Thursday afternoon of this week.

The motion was agreed to.

The Senate adjourned until Thursday, May 7, at 3 p.m.

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## THE SENATE

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Thursday, May 7, 1942.

The Senate met at 3 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

### WORK OF THE SENATE

#### DISCUSSION

Hon. J. H. KING: Honourable senators, I have a statement which I wish to make to the Senate. I think you are all familiar with the attitude of the late Right Honourable Senator Dandurand in regard to the place in Parliament occupied by the Senate. He had the idea, in which, I believe, many of us concur, that this House as constituted, although its members come from both political parties, is not really a partisan body. His opinion—and I think it was in accordance with the views of most of the Prime Ministers of Canada—was that we should be a reviewing body. I may say truthfully that during the twelve years I have been in this House I have never until yesterday attended a political conference of my party. Yesterday we had a meeting, and that is why I wish to speak now. Our group met for the purpose of considering our position in the Senate, realizing, as we all do, the loss of the distinguished leadership we had under the late Right Honourable Senator Dandurand and Right Honourable Mr. Meighen, who has retired from his place in this House. We know that the earnestness and activity of these two distinguished leaders made it possible for the others of us to rest on our oars; in other words, we were inclined to "let George do it." Now that they have left this House, it has occurred to us that there probably is an opportunity for members of the Senate to do more work than we have been doing. There is an opinion abroad that senators have no work to do. It is not so. We are here in Ottawa, in touch with the House of Commons, where most of the legislation originates, and we have the facilities, the opportunity and, I think, the duty to study