

and distinction to the title of "Minister of Justice." In the Canadian Bar Association, as honorary president, he has rendered valiant service to the cause for which that organization was created. We wish him many years of useful service. All of us in this chamber, whatever the motives that brought us here in the first place, have, after all, the same desire to render service to the country we love so much. Whatever may have been the political predilections of the right hon. gentleman when he entered this chamber for the first time at the age of under thirty, I feel quite sure that to him party ties have lost much of their acrimony, blended smoothly and easily as they have been into that high regard for his country which has characterized his efforts in recent years and I am sure will be apparent in the years to come. We congratulate him upon his years of service and trust that in whatever capacity it may be—whether to the right or the left of you, Mr. Speaker, is a matter wholly unimportant—he may long continue to render service to Canada.

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, on behalf of hon. members on this side of the house may I express to the right hon. leader of the opposition (Mr. Bennett) our warm appreciation of his thought and courtesy in extending the congratulations he has just extended to the one who in point of years of membership and service is, at the present time, the oldest member of the Canadian House of Commons. I need not say how wholeheartedly we who sit on this side of the house endorse his remarks. It would be impossible for any of us, most of all myself, to begin to say what we owe to the exceptional abilities, wise counsel and helpful guidance of the right hon. member for Quebec East the present Minister of Justice (Mr. Lapointe). He has been at my side—my deskmate in fact—during all of the years I have held the position either of leader of the government or of leader of the opposition. His presence, I need scarcely say, has made my task very much easier and my place infinitely more secure, than it otherwise could possibly have been. I am glad to have this opportunity of repeating in public and in this House of Commons, what I feel I owe to the loyalty, cooperation and constant help I have had from my right hon. friend during my entire public life.

The right hon. leader of the opposition has referred to the remarkable manner in which the right hon. member for Quebec East has mastered the English language and the example he has been to us all in that particular. There is another particular in which he has also

been a great example, not only to hon. members of this house but to the citizens generally of our country. He has taught us the wisdom of moderation and of toleration in all that pertains to differences between classes, between races, between provinces and between creeds. I am sure that there is but one wish in this house and that is that the right hon. Minister of Justice may be spared for many years to come as a member of the House of Commons in order that he may continue to give in parliament his exceptional abilities and qualities to the public service of our country.

Mr. A. A. HEAPS (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, had the leader of the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation group been in his seat this afternoon I am sure he would have been only too happy to join in the compliments that have been paid this afternoon to the right hon. Minister of Justice (Mr. Lapointe). In his absence I desire on behalf of our group to concur in the sentiments expressed by the leader of the government (Mr. Mackenzie King) and the leader of the opposition (Mr. Bennett). If there is one thing that we appreciate about the Minister of Justice, it is his courtesy to all members of the house, no matter in what part of it they may sit. In this he sets another fine example which may be added to those referred to by the previous speakers. Even though we may not agree with what he says, he says it in such a way that we cannot but enjoy listening to his remarks. I wish to associate myself most heartily with those who have expressed the desire that the right hon. gentleman may sit in this chamber for many years to come.

Miss AGNES C. MACPHAIL (Grey-Bruce): Mr. Speaker, since I do not belong to any group I cannot let this opportunity pass without saying that I have always felt that the Minister of Justice (Mr. Lapointe) has been the one member of this house who has sustained my faith in human nature. Many times during the sixteen years I have sat in this house my faith has been threatened, but the Minister of Justice has always conducted himself in such a way as to restore my faith in my fellow men and in the members of this House of Commons. I do not think it would be going too far to say to the Minister of Justice, who is to-day celebrating the thirty-fourth anniversary of his first entrance into this chamber, that he is a greatly admired and beloved member of the House of Commons.

Mr. J. H. BLACKMORE (Lethbridge): Mr. Speaker, ever since I came into this house the right hon. Minister of Justice (Mr. Lapointe) has impressed me as being a thoroughly good man. I believe he is enjoy-