

beyond a few brief words, otherwise I will scoop myself and remove the anticipation which my remarks may bring about. I want to say that I share every favourable comment made regarding Senator Croll.

I had the distinction of serving with him in the House of Commons for two years prior to his elevation to the Senate. Of course, he would not remember that, because I was such an obscure backbencher. Since he was such an elevated personage in the House of Commons at that time, it is understandable that he would not remember that association. I say that because of the qualities of leadership he showed in the House of Commons at that time.

Happy birthday, David.

● (1420)

Hon. Raymond J. Perrault: Honourable senators, I do not intend to make a long speech, because I fully support the sentiments expressed so eloquently here this afternoon.

I had a call a few weeks ago from a group of young Liberals in the province of British Columbia. Some of you may know that there is a leadership contest going on in our party. They wanted me to arrange for a dynamic speaker at the forthcoming Liberal leadership convention. I asked whom they had in mind. They wanted someone who is dynamic and who thinks young. They said, "Can you get us David Croll?" I therefore ask the senator publicly today whether he would consider being a keynote speaker at the forthcoming convention, because he is a man for all seasons and all generations. He is a great credit not only to himself but to his community, his province and his faith. He has won acclaim and honour from coast to coast in this country. He is regarded as a true national asset.

Hon. Senators: Hear, hear!

Hon. Hazen Argue: Honourable senators, I do not want to let this opportunity pass without adding my words to those that have already been spoken in congratulating Senator Croll.

I had the honour to be elected to the House of Commons in 1945, at the same time as Senator Croll. In those years that he and I spent together in the House of Commons his reputation as a progressive proponent of legislation in favour of ordinary people and as a *bona fide* spokesman for labour was second to none.

When the Rand formula was being discussed as something reasonable and fair for labour, Senator Croll was one of the leaders supporting that idea. When it comes to social legislation, his torch has shown all Canada the way. When I talk to university students and professors in the field of sociology I become aware that every textbook being studied in our universities today puts Senator Croll's name among the authorities in the field of legislation favourable to those who are less advantaged. I want to add my words to those that have already been spoken in saying that Canada is blessed by the services that have been rendered for so many years by Senator Croll.

Hon. Senators: Hear, hear!

Hon. Jack Marshall: Honourable senators, I find this an auspicious occasion to pay tribute to one of my colleagues. I should like to say a few words about my relationship with Senator Croll since I have been here. The first time I met him was when I came to Ottawa in 1968 as an MP. While I was sitting in my beautiful office the first phone call I had was from Senator Croll. His secretary told me that Senator Croll wanted to see Jack Marshall. I rushed over, having heard of Senator Croll and the great work he had done over the years. When I arrived at Senator Croll's office I said, "Why do you want to see me?" He said, "Oh, I just wanted to see what a Newfoundland Jew looked like." He said he had never seen a Newfoundland Jew before.

Senator MacEachen: You are really a Cape Breton Jew!

Senator Marshall: The next time I came in contact with him, other than in the general routine of the Senate, he asked me if I would replace him as national commander of the Jewish Veterans of Canada. It is in that regard and his station in that post that I pay him tribute. I have not had much time to become acquainted with the job he has handed to me, but his work and leadership with the Jewish Veterans of Canada, who played an important role in World War I, World War II and in Korea, deserves mention here and should be put on the record today.

I wish him well. I only hope that I will be around at the age of 90 in order to receive tributes such as these.

Hon. David A. Croll: I am, of course, touched and humbled by the kind words and thoughts expressed today. It is a pleasure to be here. As someone older than I once said, "It's a pleasure to be anywhere."

I have been lucky. I cannot explain it any other way. I have had an interesting and exciting life. Don't ask me why! I came into this century on a buggy and we have already reached the moon. If I hang around much longer we will be on Mars. That is a long distance and a long way to come. It is a little like climbing Mount Everest.

It is exhilarating to realize that you have finally reached this age. The climb has been tough, but rewarding. The scenery has been grand, but there is something lacking. It is sad to look around and see that so many of the familiar faces are gone, the people who started out the way you started out. I don't know the answer to it.

I have three brothers who are doctors. I have a son-in-law who is head of a department at Mount Sinai. I have a grandson who is a sharp little fellow. The other day he said to me, "Grandpa, don't pay any attention to them. The answer is: keep breathing in and out and keep that up. That will do it for you."

I ask myself, "Where have all the years gone?" When I think back I recognize that I was here when that happened; I was here when almost everything happened! I worked with almost every Prime Minister. We have been lucky in this country with the kind of men we have had as prime ministers. I have known them all. I thought that the country was quite unfair to some of them, but that is politics.