

THE SENATE

Tuesday, February 25, 1930.

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

Prayers and routine proceedings.

COMMITTEE OF SELECTION

On motion of Hon. Mr. Dandurand, the following senators were appointed a Committee of Selection to nominate senators to serve on the several standing committees during the present session: the Honourable Messieurs Belcourt, Buchanan, Daniel, Graham, Robertson, Sharpe, Tanner, Willoughby, and the mover.

TRIBUTES TO DECEASED SENATORS

THE LATE HON. SIR EDWARD KEMP, HON. J. D. REID, HON. N. K. LAFLAMME AND HON. B. C. PROWSE

Hon. RAOUL DANDURAND: Honourable members, since we last separated, in June, 1929, the Senate has lost four of its members, two of whom, Sir Edward Kemp and Hon. Dr. Reid, were members of the Privy Council.

Sir Edward Kemp was born in 1858 in the Province of Quebec and spent his early life there. When about twenty-five years of age, after having acquired some experience in industry in the city of Montreal, he moved to Toronto. Possessed of energy, foresight, and public spirit, from the moment he launched out for himself in the city of Toronto he rose rapidly. At thirty he was already in the public eye. He was interested not only in his own business but in economics generally, and we find him elected in 1895 to the high office of president of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, and in 1899 to the presidency of the Board of Trade of the city. The following year he entered the House of Commons, and in 1911 became a Privy Councillor. He was made Minister of Militia in 1916, and Minister of Overseas Military Forces in 1917. In 1921 he came to this House. His career was characterized by steady and rapid progress towards the summit. He succeeded not only in his private interests but in public life as well, and was a leader in his community. Those of us here who had the privilege of being in close contact with Sir Edward found him always kindly and affable and a thorough gentleman. Though the son of a farmer, he had the bearing of an aristocrat. He was simplicity itself, kindness personified, and an outstanding citizen.

Senator Reid, who was a contemporary of Sir Edward Kemp, was born at Prescott in 1859. He studied medicine, but deserted that

field for industrial pursuits, which he in turn deserted for the larger field of politics. He entered the House of Commons in 1891, at the age of thirty-two, was re-elected continuously from that time till 1921, and, with the time that he sojourned among us, spent thirty-eight years in public life. He was Minister of Customs in 1911 and Minister of Railways and Canals in 1917.

We saw him in full activity and apparent good health to the final day of last session. I always admired his energy and strong conviction, and although he was sometimes aggressive, he was always loyal and kindly. By his death the Senate has lost a good member, and the people a good servant.

We have lost also Senator Laflamme, who was with us for only a very short time. When he entered the Senate he was already in poor health. He had been drawn into politics against his inclination, and he sat in the House of Commons from 1922 to 1925. He was reproached for having made the statement, when addressing the electors of Drummond-Arthabaska, that he did not need their vote, but that if they needed him they could elect him.

He was essentially a lawyer, and shone brilliantly at the Bar of the Province of Quebec in both civil and criminal matters. He had a large practice. His services were retained from one end of the province to the other in most important cases. He had an original mind and was a powerful dialectician, and was possessed of an independent spirit which party discipline could not curb.

The news reached us yesterday of the demise of Senator Prowse, of Prince Edward Island. Senator Prowse had been a member of this Chamber since 1901. He was born at Charlottetown in 1862. His commercial career was a successful one and he was one of the merchant princes of the Island. He served as councillor for the city of Charlottetown and was at one time mayor of his native city. He was a public-spirited man, a man of sound judgment and kindly heart.

To the families of our departed friends I extend, on your behalf as well as my own, our warmest sympathy.

Hon. W. B. WILLOUGHBY: Honourable members, I wish to add but a few words to the remarks of my honourable friend the leader of the Government with reference to the death of our late colleagues in this House. The honourable leader has given a chronological history of the important steps in their careers; so it will not be necessary for me, nor shall I attempt, to repeat what he has said in that respect.