

than one enduring expression which will have a permanent association with his name. Had his life been spared, there is no doubt that he would very soon have attained the distinction of being an outstanding figure in the public life of our country.

We on this side, who knew Mr. Goodison best, and who have reason to remember his great loyalty and fidelity, have suffered an irreparable loss. When we recall his character and his ability, and that he was little more than fifty years of age at the time of his death, we may, I think, say that the loss to our parliament and to our country is also irreparable.

May I be permitted a further word in conclusion, and in this address myself more particularly to the hon. leader of the opposition and the gentlemen who sit around him. We believe that the avoidance of a contest in West Lambton in the filling of the vacancy which was occasioned by Mr. Goodison's death was the outcome of a very natural desire on the part of members of all political parties in West Lambton to pay some tribute of great respect to the memory of one who held so strong a place in their affections as well as in their regard, and that the avoidance of a political contest seemed to them, in the circumstances, a fitting tribute to pay. We recognize that even the wish of the constituency in this particular might not have been realized without some degree of acquiescence on the part of my hon. friend. Believing this to be true, may I say to hon. gentlemen opposite that their chivalrous attitude in this regard is deeply appreciated by those of us who have suffered most, and constitutes a tribute on the part of this House of Commons to the memory of him who has gone, far more eloquent than any eulogy it would be possible to express in words.

Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, the span of human life at best is brief, and it does seem that at the beginning of every session there is some sad circumstance to remind us of that brevity of human life and the futility of human effort.

Mr. Goodison was much better known to those who sit opposite than to those who surround me. It was my privilege to sit with him upon a committee where men's passions were at times displayed, and where feelings were not always of the kindest. I should like to bear this tribute to him: that even when the provocation seemed greatest he endeavored always to be fair. His sense of justice was great. He desired impartiality so

far as a man who is a loyal supporter of his party might be impartial in the discharge of the onerous duties which devolved upon him as a member of that committee. He did his duty as he saw it and he did it faithfully and honestly and well. Those of us who knew him by reason of that association came closer in contact with him, perhaps, than those who only knew him as a member of this house.

His history is the history of a typical, industrious Canadian who not only had trained himself for a position at the bar, but, by reason of his family connection, had become associated with a great industrial enterprise. In that industrial life he became a master. His enterprise occupied a great place amongst those manufacturing farm implements, and he was justly proud of it. He was proud of its history and its achievement, and prouder still of the quality of the goods it produced and the ability to sell its product, because of its merit, in competition with the world.

Reference has been made by the Prime Minister to Mr. Goodison's position in his community, wherein he held the respect and the esteem and, one might not exaggerate by saying the affection of the people among whom he lived. It is not always that the great captains of industry are able to win the affection and esteem of the people in their own community. Such, however, was the position of Mr. Goodison.

He has been called by death. He has left behind him a record of willing, useful service to his country and devotion to his business. In the discharge of his duty, as he saw it, associated with one of the great political parties of this country, his allegiance to that party was not so strong or so loyal that he might not see at times causes for criticism or just observations with respect to what the policies might ultimately lead to. We who knew him know that this house has lost a distinguished member, a great Canadian, a man of industry, a man of perseverance, but, above all, as the Prime Minister has said, a man of character, and that which will endure is not the recollection of the benefits that came to his fellow citizens in the community in which he lived because of his courage and enterprise in business, because of the position he held, but the example of his character to younger men and women, which will long survive the memory of any services he may have given in the circumstances to which allusion has been made. That character will be of some influence to guide others in their careers, and the memory of it will be precious not only to the members of this house but to his family and those who come after him.