

later became interested in the timber business in northern Ontario. These associations brought him into immediate contact with large numbers of workmen on railways and in lumber camps, and with the many needs of a pioneering community. To be a friend and neighbour to those in humble circumstances was, we are told, the constant endeavour of his life. In this endeavour he seems to have largely succeeded. I had the pleasure, as the Prime Minister had, of reading this article to which he has referred. It appeared, I think, in the *Journal* of this city shortly after Mr. Nicholson's death and was by a former citizen of Chapleau who had been a life long friend. My feelings upon reading it were similar to those to which my right hon. friend has given expression to-day. It closed, if I recollect aright, with the words: "Those of us who knew him best, liked him more." After all that is the one real test and the highest tribute that can be paid to the worth of a friend and a neighbour; it is a tribute that in Mr. Nicholson's case many will believe is worthily bestowed.

To all of us who are of the official opposition, the death of Doctor J. Arthur Denis, the late member for St. Denis, Montreal, means the loss of a deeply valued colleague as well as friend: to myself personally it means the loss of one of the most loyal and devoted supporters that any leader of a political party could wish to have.

Though the youngest in years of the four members who have been taken away since our last session, Doctor Denis was the oldest in point of membership in the house itself. He entered parliament in 1921, in his forty-first year, and represented the constituency of St. Denis continuously up to the time of his death on the first of October last, when he was in his fifty-fourth year. His popularity in his own constituency could not have been better attested than by the huge majorities he received at each of the four contests at which he was a candidate, and which varied from 6,500 to 18,000. These majorities were by no means the result wholly of the exigencies of politics. They reflected in a very true way the place which Doctor Denis held in the hearts of the people of his constituency. He was a man devoted in his sympathies to the poor; and being a medical doctor practising in a thickly populated industrial community, his profession brought him into close contact with the conditions of thousands of workers, many of them possessed with little or nothing of this world's goods. To one and all in need he ministered as best he could, and, as may well be assumed, with

little in the way of remuneration. He took a special interest in young people, and sought to encourage their participation in politics. For a time, a club which he formed to this end, met every week in his own home.

Few members have been more ardent advocates of their political faith. Liberalism to him, as to many another, was a gospel. When not practising his profession he was immersed in politics; indeed, his profession, save as a means of furthering charitable ends, came to hold a wholly secondary place, and its rewards were sacrificed to politics. He died as he lived, a poor man with large family obligations.

In this House of Commons, Doctor Denis was most regular in his attendance. He participated freely in the debates, especially where social and industrial questions were under discussion. As opportunity presented he never failed to say the word which he believed might be helpful to the people he represented and the cause he had at heart. I really believe that the strain Doctor Denis experienced in seeking to serve both at home and in parliament the needs of a working class constituency in these years of depression was responsible more than all else for the heart affliction which occasioned his death, and his passing at the early age of fifty-four. It was a strain which was also felt by other of our late colleagues, and is a strain which I believe is felt in considerable measure by most men who take part seriously in public affairs to-day. Doctor Denis' death has occasioned an irreparable loss to those he served so well by his profession and in parliament. It is a loss which will be much felt in this House of Commons, and in times such as the present, a very real loss to the country.

I join with the right hon. the Prime Minister in expression of the desire that the sympathy of this House of Commons be appropriately conveyed through His Honour the Speaker to the immediate members of the families who since our last meeting together here have been so greatly bereaved.

Mr. J. S. WOODSWORTH (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, it is hardly necessary that I should follow the Prime Minister (Mr. Bennett) and the leader of the opposition (Mr. Mackenzie King) in a review of the careers of the four members who have been called away. I desire, however, to associate this group with the tribute of respect which has been expressed by the other groups in the house to our fellow members who have passed on. Sometimes I wonder, when we can find admirable qualities in all of those, even our political enemies, who have gone