

THE SENATE

Thursday, September 14, 1961

The Senate met at 3 p.m., Hon. Arthur M. Pearson, Acting Speaker, in the Chair.

Prayers.

THE LATE SENATORS EULER AND BRADETTE

TRIBUTES

Hon. Walter M. Aseltine: Honourable senators, before we proceed with our regular business I would like to take this opportunity of paying tribute to the memory of a great Canadian who has been a member of the Senate for over 20 years and who has been a close personal friend to many of us since he became a member of this chamber. This is another of those sad occasions which occur all too frequently. I am referring, honourable senators, to the Honourable William D. Euler, P.C., familiarly known to most of us as Bill Euler, who passed away suddenly shortly after the Senate adjourned for the summer recess.

I have referred to the late Senator Euler as a great Canadian, and I feel sure that honourable senators will all agree with that statement when you remember that for almost fifty years he faithfully and devotedly gave of his great talents to the public life of this country. Although he was a very successful businessman, he found time to serve as mayor of his own city and as president of the Kitchener Board of Trade.

In 1917 the late senator was elected to the House of Commons, and he continued as a member of that house until 1940, when he was summoned to the Senate of Canada. While a member of the House of Commons, he served first as Minister of National Revenue and later as Minister of Trade and Commerce, both of which portfolios he held with great honour and distinction.

Early in 1961 Senator Euler became Chancellor of Waterloo Lutheran University.

As I have said, our late colleague came to the Senate in 1940, and his keen intellect and devotion to duty quickly made him a very valuable and popular member of this body. He will be missed by everyone. As our personal acquaintanceship grew, I came to value his good advice and sincere friendship, and I know that I personally shall miss him very much in the days that lie ahead.

On behalf of the senators on this side of the house, I extend to Senator Euler's two sons our most sincere sympathy and regret in the great loss they have suffered in the death of their distinguished father.

I also regret to have to report the death on Tuesday of this week of the Honourable Senator Joseph Alfred Bradette. The late senator spent altogether some thirty-five years of his life in the Parliament of Canada. He was first elected to the House of Commons in 1926 and was re-elected four times.

Senator Bradette left the House of Commons to become a member of the Senate of Canada, and he spent the last eight years of his life as a member here. He made friends very easily and soon became a popular member of this chamber. He took his part in all Senate proceedings, particularly in committee work. He attended sittings of the house regularly, even when his health was failing, and could always be depended upon to do his part.

It has been said that Senator Bradette was a self-made man. His ancestors came to Canada more than 300 years ago. At an early age he went with his parents to Cochrane, Ontario, and there worked with his father on a pioneer farm. After a short time he left the farm and worked as a clerk in a store in Cochrane, later becoming a merchant in his own right.

Senator Bradette educated himself, and learned to speak English fluently. He put himself through university, and studied law, although he never practised in that profession. He spent eight years in municipal politics. After his election to the Commons he became Deputy Speaker of that house. He had a true love for the north country, and took a prominent part in its development. When I say the "north country", I refer to that part of Ontario north of North Bay and extending as far as Hudson Bay. Senator Bradette's integrity and honesty were beyond question.

Another valuable senator has passed to the Great Beyond. To his brothers and sisters we extend our sincere regrets and deepest sympathy.

Hon. Cyrille Vaillancourt: Honourable senators, it is profoundly sad for me to enter this chamber and to realize that I shall never again see my colleague the late Senator Euler near me. For many years I have been accustomed to seeing him in this chamber during the session and to listen to his many clear and pertinent reflections.

I first met Senator Euler in 1930, when I came to Ottawa as a member of a delegation to make a request of Government authorities with respect to the *caisses populaires*. The year 1930 was the beginning of the economic crisis, and the savings and credit organizations in the *caisses populaires* were trying to find a way to help the little people. We found that to tax these organizations like the great corporations was very onerous. The principal argument on behalf of these organizations was