TRIBUTES IN THE ASSEMBLY

"A PRIVILEGE TO KNOW HIM."

At the moment of his death the House of Assembly, which had been through another all-night sitting in connection with the Constitution Bill, was in recess for an hour, and when the bell was rung the Members, while the Minstrels the deepest regret of the meeting in memory of Sir John Duncan.

It had been intended to resume the sitting at 11 o'clock, and go on indefinitely, but as with one voice the whole of the Members agreed that it was due to the memory of their late colleague, Sir John, that an immediate adjournment should be made. Speaker again took the chair.

The Premier (Hon. A. H. Lake), in making the announcement of Sir John's death, said he was sure every member of the House and every citizen of Australia would be most deeply grieved and moved by the news that another member of the Legislature and a man highly respected by everybody the hon. the to the hon. Sir John Duncan, had been taken away by the hand of death.

The feeling of every member of the House must be deeply fortified by the occurrence. In the circumstances they were hardly prepared to go on with the business in connection with the Constitution Bill. Sir John Duncan had been recognised throughout the high position and had enjoyed the respect of every person in South Australia.

Mr. J. Bostock, on the South Australia, spoke of Sir John Duncan as a man in every sense of the term— one whose best qualities of heart and head and hand were his own. His work was his life, his life was his work. The most prominent position he occupied was the front rank of South Australian legislators.

As a colleague he was loyal, as an opponent he was honest, in the strength to the cause he espoused, and in his own strength he was independent of his own. His life has exemplified the character of the nation's country's, says the leader, the truth is.

The Hon. A. W. Styles, leader of the Opposition, said: "It was with profound sorrow that I learned of the death of the late Hon. Sir John Duncan. My acquaintance with the leader of the Parliamentary Liberal Party in the Legislative Council has only extended ever since I was a member of the Opposition. I have learnt to know the late Sir John Duncan, and I am moved to express my deep sympathy and admire him. He was one of Nature's gentlemen, a man of solid worth and amazing integrity who marked all his actions, from the smallest to the greatest, as a good, honest, lawyer, and although I was not in accord with him on all points, I could not help admiring his coolness under pressure and his singleness of purpose. He was a man of action. He was a man of goodness. He could speak on behalf of every member of the Labor Party if necessary; he could speak for all of us. He was respected by all, regarded to the full the loss South Australian, in the mind of the man who was in the first rank of high citizenship, and who had been raised to the position of a legislator and as a man of affairs.

Mr. J. Bostock felt he could not allow the occasion to pass without saying a few words about the late Sir John Duncan. He was a man of intense personal acquaintance with Sir John, but of the most cordial feeling that had first brought that gentleman to Parliament in South Australia. It was a man who had been closely connected with the State, but with which Wallaroo has formed a very important place. Sir John came from the Wallaroo district, and he worked in the office of the Wallaroo and Moonta Mining Company, and had been one of the leading figures in those towns that he had been introduced and had become well acquainted with. He sympathised with the members of the late Honor.

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Mr. A. J. McEachlin, the president of the Legislative Union, said:—"I was greatly shocked when I heard the news. I had expected the news to be published somewhere in advance towards recovery. Sir John was deservedly esteemed, not only by his fellow members, among whom he was a stalwart pillar, but by the Bench and Bar, and the bench and Bar highly esteemed his strict integrity. His splendid service to this Colony in various capacities and many other capacities will be remembered among all that is best in the history of the Liberal Union. Sir John was the toast of the union, and took an active interest in it, and his views alike..."