

George Tustin, Former Member, Dies in City

Member for Prince Edward-Lennox in the House of Commons for more than 22 years, George James Tustin died in Belleville General Hospital early Sunday morning, May 19, following a lengthy illness.

He had resided at 234 Ann Street in Belleville since moving from Napanee in 1965.

Mr. Tustin's long and distinguished political service followed an outstanding career in municipal and public life in the town of Napanee to which he moved 50 years ago from Todmorden where he was born, son of James and Mary (Wyatt) Tustin.

He served as councillor and reeve before becoming Mayor for two years and took an active part in the advancement of the community.

Mr. Tustin was a member of the Anglican church and in Napanee served as Warden of St. Mary Magdalene church for many years, and in Belleville, was a member of St. Thomas' Anglican church.

He was an honorary member of Napanee Rotary Club of which he served as president for two years, and in Belleville was also a member of the Rotary Club.

Mr. Tustin was also active in fraternal organizations in Napanee and Belleville and last January received his 50-year jewel as a member of the Masonic Order.

He was past Master of Union lodge, AF and AM No. 9, Napanee; also a life member of Napanee Chapter RAM; life member of King Baldwin Preceptory No. 6, Belleville, and a former member of Ramesses Shrine in Toronto.

Mr. Tustin entered the House of Commons in 1935 at a time when the fortunes of the Progressive Conservative Party were at a low ebb. From 1936 to 1940 he was the only PC member in the Commons between Toronto and Brockville.

He was appointed Chief Whip of the party under the leadership of Hon. George Drew and continued in this capacity under the leadership of Hon. John Diefenbaker.



GEORGE TUSTIN

Mr. Tustin played a leading role in the organization of the pipeline debate which led to the downfall of the Liberal party at the election following.

Though a member of the Opposition for the greater part of his service, Mr. Tustin served the riding well, and the airports at Picton and Mountain-View were established while he was member. Though a strong supporter of his party, he was known for his fairness and his record term of service was largely the result of the esteem in which he was held by members of all parties.

He was succeeded as member for the riding by Clarence A. Milligan of Napanee who in turn was succeeded by Douglas Alkenbrack.

Mr. Tustin's friendly smile, his interest in others and his attendance at most public events, added to his large number of friends and supporters.

Mr. Tustin was one of the

pioneer motion picture theatre operators in Ontario, operating the former Granada theatre in Napanee for many years.

On becoming a member, he gave up his business interests to devote full time to serving the constituency.

Mr. Tustin is survived by his wife, the former Ida Vivian Ashley of Napanee.

Also by five sisters, and three brothers, Mrs. Walter Mulock, Mrs. Fanny Timewell, Mrs. Rita McMillan, Mrs. Mary Andrews, Mrs. Myrtle Andrews, Albert E. Tustin, Henry E. Tustin, all of Toronto; Joseph C. Tustin, Napanee.

Mr. Tustin is resting at the John R. Bush Funeral Home, 80 Highland Ave., Belleville, until noon Wednesday, May 22, thence to St. Thomas' Anglican church, Belleville for service at two o'clock with Archdeacon A. S. McConnell officiating.

Interment will be in River-view cemetery at Napanee.

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