

as I pointed out a moment ago, was confederation. But this partnership will survive only if the rights and privileges of the two partners are interpreted in a broadminded way.

The reasons in favour of bilingual currency are the following:

1. We have in Canada the descendants of the principal pioneer races, the English and the French. This racial duality is at the basis of our constitutional evolution.

2. The French language has been recognized by the various political regimes from 1759 to 1867 and, by the constitution, is on a footing of equality with the English language.

3. Bilingualism properly accepted and applied will bring the two races more closely together and make for peace and harmony.

Many countries in the same position as Canada have bilingual currency; some have trilingual currency. I have in my hand different envelopes containing such currency. Belgium, for instance, has bilingual money, French and Flemish; that is envelope No. 1. France practices bilingualism in Tunisia, one side of the silver coins being in French and the other in Arabian; that is envelope No. 2. The same applies in Syria; envelope No. 3; and in Lebanon, envelope No. 4. At Hongkong the currency is in English and Chinese, envelope No. 5. In South Africa the currency is bilingual, English and Dutch, envelope No. 6. In Palestine, under the mandate of Great Britain, the currency is trilingual, English, Hebrew and Turkish, envelope No. 7. In Switzerland, the currency is trilingual, all currency and bank notes being in French, German and Italian, and this trilingualism in Switzerland does not prevent peace and harmony.

In Canada we have already had several bilingual bank notes. I have before me a photograph of the bank notes of La Banque du Peuple,—the Bank of the People,—issued in 1840. They are bilingual, being printed in French on one side and in English on the other. At the present time we have bilingual bank notes like the ten dollar and twenty dollar notes of La Banque Canadienne Nationale, and the Banque Provinciale du Canada, and I do not think any member of this house on either side would refuse a bilingual ten dollar note of either of those banks. Why should not Canada, one of the leading countries of the world, be broadminded? The further from civilization the more intolerance one finds, but the nearer to civilization, the more broadmindedness, moderation, fair play and tolerance.

Mr. IRVINE: May I ask my hon. friend a question?

[Mr. Dupré.]

Mr. DUPRE: Certainly.

Mr. IRVINE: Is there any law now which prohibits the banks from printing their notes in French?

Mr. DUPRE: No. Then at Geneva, the seat of international affairs, all the ambassadors, ministers, consuls and representatives of the various countries of the world understand, and speak or read, French in addition to their mother tongue. Yet because the British Empire and the United States of America represent one-quarter of the population of the globe it was decided that at the League of Nations there should be two official languages, English and French, although for centuries French has been the language of diplomacy and, if I may say so, the international language. Here in Canada we French speaking people are not one-quarter of the population but one-third, and besides we have in favour of the use of our mother tongue history, tradition and the written as well as the unwritten law. Should not Canada be just as broadminded as Geneva; and since Canada is bilingual and has already bilingual postage stamps and bilingual excise stamps, why should she not have bilingual money? And all the more so because she is one of the largest bilingual countries in the world.

A few years ago, Mr. Speaker, there was a big movement in favour of a *bonne entente* between the English and the French elements in Canada, and I remember perfectly well some remarkable speeches that were delivered in that connection in the city of Quebec. One of them described very eloquently the Montcalm and Wolfe monument as a lesson in forgetfulness, appeasement, cooperation and friendship. To our English speaking friends on both sides of this house, whether from the maritime provinces, from old Quebec or Ontario, or from the western provinces or British Columbia, I make this appeal: In the years to come Canada will always need Quebec. There in stormy days you will always find stability. Our language is part of our body and soul. We are attached to it just as we are attached to our faith. Let us unite and try to settle this question of bilingualism, keeping it above party lines and prejudices. Like the Wolfe and Montcalm column, let us make bilingualism a lasting monument of cooperation, friendship and practical *bonne entente* between the two pioneer races of Canada.

Hon. ERNEST LAPOINTE (Quebec East): Mr. Speaker, I was pleased to listen to the address of my hon. friend the Solicitor General (Mr. Dupré). The subject under debate is too