

ings. Those are five subjects which for the moment it is not deemed expedient to entrust the Local Assembly, and I suppose the reasons for withholding them are tolerably obvious. There are also two other very important clauses, one in reference to the language in which the proceedings of the Assembly are to be recorded, the other with reference to regulating the sale of intoxicating liquors. The powers with regard to those subjects are relegated to the Assembly after the next election. They are allowed to make such provisions as they may deem expedient for the mode in which their proceedings shall be recorded, and they are prohibited from making any change in the existing law with regard to the sale of liquors until after the next election. So, in point of fact, those questions are relegated to the people.

HON. MR. SCOTT—Perhaps the hon. gentleman will say whether the question of education is relegated to them. I did not hear him mention it. Has it been overlooked?

HON. MR. ABBOTT—No; I think the educational powers are retained by the Dominion for the present.

HON. MR. SCOTT—I thought the hon. gentleman said that the particular powers that are retained are mentioned also.

HON. MR. ABBOTT—The subject of education is not relegated to them for the present.

HON. MR. KAULBACH—This refers to the publishing and recording of proceedings of the Assembly. That is relegated to the Assembly itself, but I do not see anything here as regards the statutes and proceedings in the courts. Is that intended by this Bill to be relegated to the North-West Territories or is it to remain under the jurisdiction of the Parliament of Canada?

HON. MR. ABBOTT—I understand that the regulation of all matters connected with the publication of the Acts of the Legislature and with its proceedings will be in the hands of the Legislature.

HON. MR. POWER—I am glad to see that we are giving the people of the North-West Territories another instalment of

self-government. What we are now giving them we might have given them earlier; but they must be thankful to get it, though a little late. Amongst the things over which jurisdiction is given to the Legislative Assembly I do not find the franchise. There is a provision in the 9th clause of this Bill as to the mode of providing voters' lists, but that does not seem to me to be quite broad enough to include the right to decide who shall be allowed to vote. It is apparently authorising the Legislative Assembly to arrange as to the manner in which the lists of persons entitled to vote under Dominion legislation shall be made up. I think the Legislative Assembly ought to have the right to decide who should have the privilege of voting at their own elections. I simply call the attention of the leader of the House to it, so that he will be able to satisfy himself on the point between now and the time the House goes into Committee of the Whole on this Bill. I think the right to regulate the franchise is one that probably was intended to be given to the Legislative Assembly.

HON. MR. BELLROSE—I regret that I cannot support this Bill. There is a part of it, the 32nd clause, which I consider unjust. Under existing law, the people of the North-West may use either French or English in the meetings of the Assembly; this right is to be set aside by this Bill, if a majority of the people should decide to do so after the next elections. We know that they have already decided that the use of the French language should be abolished in the North-West. If this clause of the Bill is rejected we know that any legislation which would deprive the French minority of the rights which they possess under the Constitution, given them by the Parliament of Canada, would be *ultra vires*, and the Premier of Canada would be obliged to veto it. By this 32nd section the Local Assembly will be empowered after the next general election in those Territories, to abolish the use of the French language and we all know that if this Bill passes French will cease to be an official language in those Territories. The principle which this clause embodies has been accepted by the Government of the Dominion. I do not intend to use language which would be necessary to characterize the conduct of those members of the Government from