

*Financial Administration Act**(Text):*

Mr. Speaker, we in the province of Quebec realize only too well that while two languages are officially recognized in this country, in many sections of our land outside the province of Quebec perhaps only English is spoken and very little, if any, French. But at the same time I am convinced that citizens in districts outside the province of Quebec would be more than happy to have bilingual cheques printed, just as money is printed in the two official languages of this country.

I am equally sure that citizens in sections of my province where only the French language is spoken would be only too happy to have the cheques that we are discussing at the present time printed in both languages, just as our money is printed in both languages at the moment.

I am told, as a freshman member of this House of Commons, that by rising in my place in this house at the present time I am doing what is commonly called "killing a bill". Let me say this in front of my constituents, in front of my fellow Canadians and in front of all members of this house.

(Translation):

As representative of Brome-Missisquoi, I support the principle of this bill.

Mr. Robichaud: Question.

(Text):

Mr. Graftey: Mr. Speaker, again I hear noises from the opposition benches. Let us now cast all facades aside; let us get right down to the point we are discussing.

An hon. Member: Yes, let us get to the point.

Mr. Graftey: It is good to hear the hon. member for St. Jean-Iberville-Napierville (Mr. Dupuis) speak in the house this afternoon. It is one of those rare occasions on which he visits the house. He must have been working hard in his riding.

Mr. Dupuis: Yes, I was winning the election at Chambly.

Mr. Graftey: That is very interesting and it is good to see the hon. member back. I understand he was participating in the provincial election.

Some hon. Members: Order.

Mr. Graftey: Most people might perhaps think that on the face of it we are just discussing a very simple matter of bilingual cheques and whether or not we should print cheques in the two official languages of this country. I have said time and time again, and I repeat it in this House of Commons—as I did in the French language—that I do not see why a simple administrative act cannot be passed almost at any time in order

[Mr. Graftey.]

to achieve the ends contemplated by this legislation. I am not shy at this time in pressing upon the government the desires which I have just stated.

Only the other day a very good friend of mine, Mr. Arthur Blakely of the *Montreal Gazette*, talked about how various parties in this country, whether they are in power or in opposition, claim to be the champions of that which we might refer to as national unity. He made certain remarks in his column, which I am sure most hon. members have read. I agree largely with many of the remarks which Mr. Blakely made, Mr. Speaker.

I remember years ago, when I was taking French lessons in order to become bilingual, saying to my French speaking professor, something that pertained to the spirit of national unity. Her reply was this, that all people of Canada, both inside and outside the province of Quebec, took national unity for granted.

Why do men in public life and politicians always whip this horse, so to speak? I venture to say that all members of parliament—and I have to add a rider, with the exception of a very few—take that which we call national unity for granted. But I say that unfortunately there are a few who persist, whether or not it is on the discussion of this bill, in divide and rule tactics. There are a few who, on the one hand, offer to the people of Canada, centralization and uniform legislation, while on the other hand they try to divide and rule our country. I will not be irresponsible and label any one political party with this accusation.

(Translation):

But I ask myself a question. Let us look, for instance, at the speeches of the hon. member for Laurier (Mr. Chevrier). Could he—and I have the feeling he would like very much to become leader of the Liberal party, but I am not too sure about it—could the hon. member deliver in every part of our great and young Canada the speeches he made in the county of Labelle? I would say no. Could he table here in the house the speeches he made in the county of Labelle, province of Quebec? I would say no, Mr. Speaker.

Throughout my district of Brome-Missisquoi, I am always Graftey; I am not *Martin* in the province of Quebec and *Martin* in the province of Ontario.

Our name is the same, and the principles we advocate are the same in all parts of our country, Canada.

(Text):

Some hon. Members: Do not talk it out.