

the province to consider sympathetically the aspirations and requests of their French-Canadian fellow-citizens in the matter of the establishment and operation of English-French schools, facilitating an equitable teaching of the French language together with a thorough acquisition of English.

"That we are confident there is no desire or intention on the part of the government or the majority of the people of Ontario to proscribe the French language. This is set forth in the official statement of the policy of the government of Ontario issued on the 14th of March, 1916, as expressed in the following words:

"Regulation 17 applies only to the list of schools annually designated by the minister as English-French. In the case of schools not on the list, but containing French-speaking pupils, or in the case of new schools organized since the adoption of Regulation 17, in 1913, the use and study of the French language are provided for by Section 84 (b) of the Public Schools Act, and by Section 12 (2) of the Regulations for Public and Separate Schools. These enactments, which have for many years defined the place of the French language in Ontario schools, have not been amended or rescinded."

"That we are also confident there is no ill-will on the part of the French-Canadian people towards the government or the majority of the people of Ontario, and are of the opinion that much of the agitation against the educational measures of the government has been caused by the misunderstanding of Regulation 17. Nor is this surprising, since the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in delivering its formal judgment on this regulation, expresses itself as follows:

"Unfortunately it (the regulation) is couched in obscure language, and it is not easy to ascertain its true effect."

"Meanwhile we exhort our priests and people to pray for harmony and to do nothing that could tend to disturb it.

"This letter shall be read without comment on the first Sunday after its receipt at all the masses in each church and chapel of the province, and on the first convenient opportunity in the chapels of the religious communities. And we humbly beseech Almighty God to bestow His most abundant graces and blessings upon you all.

*Le lundi 5 février, M. le sénateur Landry a publié en tête du Droit, sous le titre Un document épiscopal, la note suivante:*

Le *Droit* publie aujourd'hui la lettre collective de Nos Seigneurs les Archevêques et les Evêques de l'Ontario au sujet de nos écoles.