

friction, and in all that time the English-speaking people in the various provinces, notably in Quebec, have been making concessions and compromises in order that harmony might prevail between the two races. What have our French Canadian citizens ever conceded to the English majority? Nothing. Even at this late date they are demanding a privilege that would carry their language into every home, every store and every pocket in Canada.

Right Hon. Mr. GRAHAM: Not every pocket. There are many pockets that contain no bank notes now.

Hon. Mr. HOCKEN: The English-speaking citizen is the most tolerant person on earth. He will compromise on almost anything for the sake of harmony, but there is a limit beyond which he will not go. And I suggest to my honourable friends of the French-speaking race that they are in danger of exceeding that limit now. Once it is exceeded, there is no more stubborn class of human beings than English-speaking people. If this language issue continues to be forced, day after day and year after year, as it has been in the past, the time may come when the English-speaking sentiment will be aroused and French Canadians may lose some of the privileges—or rights if you like—that they now have.

The other House was told with a great flourish, when I was a member of it, that the Statute of Westminster gave Canada equal status with Great Britain. The Prime Minister of the day said, "I will lay the Statute on the Table." The acting leader of the Opposition, Hon. Hugh Guthrie, replied, "You will do nothing of the kind," to which the Prime Minister retorted that he would do so on the following day. But what happened? It was never laid on the Table by that Prime Minister. Why? Because it would have given Canada power to amend its Constitution. My honourable friends from Quebec did not want that, and they do not want it to-day.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I do.

Hon. Mr. HOCKEN: I venture to say that there are not many French-speaking Canadians as broad-minded as the honourable gentleman is. The Statute of Westminster was not laid on the Table until an amendment was made so that the right of Canada to change the British North America Act depended upon action by the Imperial Government. My honourable friend knows that. As long as that situation continues Canada has not the status of the Mother Country nor

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of New Zealand or Australia. Canada to that extent is still a colony and will remain so while we have not power to amend the Constitution.

I am not a prophet nor the son of a prophet, but I say this. If the Parliament of Canada had power to amend the Constitution, as it should have had under the Statute of Westminster, there would be trouble awaiting my French Canadian friends that they do not apprehend at the present time. This country is not always going to be governed by the provinces of Ontario and Quebec. It never has been governed very much by Ontario. There is a great West growing up, sentiment is changing, and public opinion will make us keep close to the limit in matters such as this.

The right honourable senator from Eganville (Right Hon. Mr. Graham) lays on the Government responsibility for this Bill. He is perfectly correct. Why did the Government agree to the printing of bank notes in French? I do not think there can be any doubt as to the reason. The pressure of French influence brought the Government to that point. I think the Government showed an exceedingly generous—to my mind a too generous—spirit. What did the Government get in return? Opposition in the House and in committee. Our own committee amended the Bill and tried to force through something that could not get through the other House. In what interest was that done? Not in the interest of harmony. Not to promote a *bonne entente*. It was purely and solely in the interest of a movement in the province of Quebec, where the people are stirred up to a frenzy whenever they are led to believe their privileges are threatened. They forget they enjoy three or four times as much as they would if the Act of Confederation were strictly enforced. I do not think there is any doubt about that.

I gathered from the remarks of the right honourable gentleman from Eganville that there is going to be a great deal of dissatisfaction and confusion in regard to the two series of bank bills, that some of the French series will circulate in all the provinces and in the United States, that some may even reach England, and that a bad impression will be created. I gathered that my honourable friend from King's (Hon. Mr. Hughes) would prefer a one-language bank note. In view of this sentiment from such an influential quarter, I venture to move:

That all the words after the word "Minister" in subsection 4 of section 24 be struck out and that the following words be substituted: "and be printed in the English language only."