



THE FRENCH LANGUAGE QUESTION

MR. BOURASSA has been printing in his paper—*Le Devoir*—the opinions of a number of prominent English residents of the Province of Quebec on the attitude of the Ontario Government toward the French schools in that Province. These opinions have been—so far as I have seen them—uniformly against the action of the Ontario Government. Yet they have been signed by names of weight and experience in Quebec—most of them, indeed, have been English Montrealers. They have been business men, college professors, lawyers and the like. They have all borne testimony to the generous and kindly attitude of the French majority in Quebec toward the English minority—and more particularly toward the English schools; and they have expressed sorrow and indignation that this attitude was not recip-

rocated by the English majority in Ontario.

I DO not suppose that all this will have the slightest effect on Ontario politicians. They have discovered that it is possible to arouse English opinion in Ontario against French schools. I know, of course, from personal experience that they cannot arouse all Ontario English opinion in this way; but such Ontario opinion as is too calm and broad-minded and far-seeing to be inflamed in this fashion, does not, as a rule, feel it a duty to stand up and be shot at for the sake of far-away French-Canadians, whose children, after all, must learn English, sooner or later. In politics, prejudice and bigotry are always more combative and effective than tolerance and philosophy, even if the majority of the people are tolerant. And I believe that the majority of the people of Ontario are tolerant. I

believe that if a new Mowat emerged from the peanut politics of that Province at this moment, and made a stand against the "hustling" of the minority, he would win, as Mowat won against Meredith on the separate school question. But it is easier to shout with the "shouters"; and both parties seem to be doing it.

HOWEVER, I am calling attention to these articles in an English publication in the hope that the strong and confident English majority of Ontario may possibly pay some heed to the plaints of the small and contented English "garrison" in Quebec. It ought surely to carry a little weight with the Ontario people to find prominent representatives of their fellow English-Canadians in French Quebec expressing so unanimously and so strongly the hope that they will not carry their campaign of linguistic perversion so far as to challenge retaliation in Quebec, and so mar a harmony between the two races which has now existed for many decades. It is not—let me say—very brave of Ontario to insist upon getting its way, and satisfying its momentary race feeling, utterly reckless of what the consequences may eventually be to an English Protestant minority in a neighbouring Province. Ontario takes no risk. It compels the English "garrison" of Quebec to carry the risk, while lordly Ontario flaunts its colours and wins a cheap victory

The Ball of the Mississauga Horse



At the Ninth Mississauga Horse ball held last week, the Toronto Armouries were fitted up to represent a camp. As the hall was in darkness except for the lights which filtered through the tents, it gave quite the effect of out-of-doors. The tents in the foreground were used as cloak rooms, and Col. and Mrs. Chadwick received in the central tent behind which was a huge tent for dancing, beautifully decorated with the regimental colours and flags, while the smaller tents were cosily furnished for sitting out. The floor was in perfect condition, the music splendid and a delicious supper was held in the officers' quarters upstairs. The smart uniforms of the officers, and also of the soldiers and cadets in attendance, added greatly to the beauty of the scene.

Drawn by Estelle M. Kerr.