

confusion whatever. In fact, it will simplify matters throughout the Province. There is another reason why this House should gladly adopt the Bill in its present form, or some amended form. It will be a recognition of the services of a gentleman who has brought Canada prominently before the civilized nations of the earth. In this one matter Mr. Sanford Fleming has brought great credit to his country and to himself individually. I hope that the House will not only give the Bill a second reading and refer it to a committee, but that they will make it the law of the land. It can do no harm to anyone, and I am sure that it will accomplish a great deal of good, and I venture to say that if it is in force one year every one who hears me will be as familiar with the twenty-four hours system as he is now with the present mode of reckoning time. I heartily endorse the Bill, and I hope it will become law.

HON. MR. DICKEY—I would like to say a word in behalf of my own Province. My hon. friend has made the remark that it is singular to find three gentlemen from Nova Scotia objecting to this Bill, but I beg to remind him that we get up a little earlier in the morning in our Province than we do on the Pacific coast.

HON. MR. MCINNES (B.C.)—But we stay up two or three hours longer in the evening.

HON. MR. DICKEY—I hope I have not been understood as wishing to cast ridicule on this Bill, because it comes from a source which to me is entitled to every respect. I do not desire to be discourteous to the hon. member who has taken the trouble to bring this important matter before us, and I hope that my hon. colleague from Halifax will not be disposed to summarily deal with this matter, but let it have a more patient hearing than we have at present the opportunity of giving it. But while I am on my feet, perhaps the House will let me speak of it in connection with another country where the system provided for by the first clause of this Bill prevails. When it was first introduced into the adjoining Republic, I recollect well that at that time it startled a good many people, amongst others, some people in Bangor, which happens to be some degrees east of the parallel of 75 in which it would probably come under this Bill, and on that occasion one of the

Americans there was very much horrified at the idea of the sudden change being made so that he would have to set his watch a little back, because he lived in parallel very much east of the parallel he was in future to be guided by, and he at last culminated in this objection. He said, "I object to this because there haint no Joshua in these parts." I hope my hon. friend will allow this Bill to be more maturely considered at a future day, and then, if it goes to a committee, the committee will have the guidance of any observations that are made here. My object in calling attention to it was not to interfere with the progress of the measure, but to call the attention of the members of the committee to whom it may be referred to the particular points of objection, so that they may more materially consider them. I have no objection whatever that it should take this regular course. At the same time I sympathize entirely with the objections which have been made to the Bill.

HON. MR. SCOTT—Whether the Bill passes or not, it must be evident to everybody who has noted the progress that this proposal has made that it is a mere question of time (I do not intend a pun) when it will be acquiesced in by the whole country. I think I am safe in saying that in all that part of Canada which lies to the west of Montreal it is practically in force now. I know that it is in force in western towns. And I think it is in force in the border towns to the south of us; and in Ontario, as far as my judgment goes, in all the principal towns—there may be some smaller places through the country where it is not observed—but in the principal towns standard time is adopted.

HON. MR. MCINNES (B. C.)—From Montreal to the Pacific coast.

HON. MR. SCOTT—When it was introduced it became necessary that every man's clock should be in accord with it, as it was railway time. There was great reluctance to adopt it at first, but finally it came into general use. That is the standard time. All our watches and clocks are now regulated by standard time. Of course the Bill is in a crude state, and I can understand that the criticisms of my hon. friends from the east are well grounded. One recognizes that the Province of Quebec does extend as far east as New