

Some of those who claim that they are speaking for our provinces seem to think that there is an impassable stone wall between British Columbia and the remainder of Canada.

I would like to tell the house, Mr. Chairman, that the record number of Liberal members from British Columbia elected to the Canadian Parliament bears out the fact that the people of British Columbia are no introverts, scowling behind a stone wall.

The great majority of citizens in British Columbia believe in the future of Canada and are ready to strengthen the ties of Confederation and make all necessary adjustments which could be required in the process.

Much has been said about the language rights of the two founding races. Some are afraid of being forced to speak English or obliged to speak French; but in Canada as it is today, and more and more in the Canada of tomorrow, I want my children to be bilingual, indeed I would like them to be able to express themselves in many languages, the more so since they will have to live in a shrinking world, a world in which progress will depend upon the knowledge of other languages, other cultures and other peoples.

[English]

In concluding, Mr. Speaker, the Canadian of tomorrow should know English, French and as many other languages as he can assimilate. He will be a better Canadian for it and a better world citizen.

If there is a sufficient number of French speaking citizens in any area of Canada who want their children to be educated in French as a primary language, by all means let us grant them that right. At the same time let us encourage them, for the sake of their children, to develop the greatest possible fluency in English as well as in French.

● (9:30 p.m.)

Canadians have everything to lose and nothing to gain by relying on alleged historical, statistical and legalistic precedents to deny their neighbours cultural and linguistic equality. Canada has made more progress in its brief 100 years of existence than any other nation in the world. We have not made all that progress in this brief period of time by opposing change, innovation and reform.

Some hon. Members: Question.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is the house ready for the question?

29180—11

Division

Some hon. Members: Question.

The house divided on the amendment to the amendment (Mr. Lewis) which was negated on the following division:

YEAS

Messrs:

Aiken	MacInnis (Cape Breton-
Alexander	East Richmond)
Alkenbrack	MacInnis (Mrs.)
Asselin	(Vancouver-Kingsway)
Baldwin	MacLean
Beaudoin	Macquarrie
Bell	MacRae
Benjamin	McCleave
Bigg	McCutcheon
Brewin	McGrath
Broadbent	McIntosh
Burton	McKinley
Cadieu (Meadow Lake)	McQuaid
Caouette	Marshall
Carter	Mather
Coates	Matte
Comeau	Mazankowski
Crouse	Monteith
Danforth	Moore
Diefenbaker	Moore
Dionne	Muir (Cape Breton-
Downey	The Sydneys)
Dumont	Muir (Lisgar)
Fairweather	Nesbitt
Flemming	Noble
Forrestall	Nowlan
Fortin	Nystrom
Gauthier	Orlikow
Gilbert	Paproski
Gleave	Peddle
Godin	Peters
Grills	Ricard
Gundlock	Ritchie
Hales	Rodrigue
Harding	Rondeau
Harkness	Rose
Hees	Saltsman
Horner	Schreyer
Howard (Skeena)	Schumacher
Howe	Scott
Knowles (Winnipeg	Simpson
North Centre)	Skoberg
Knowles (Norfolk-	Skoreyko
Haldimand)	Southam
Lambert (Bellechasse)	Stanfield
Lambert (Edmonton	Stewart (Marquette)
West)	Tétrault
Laprise	Thomas (Moncton)
La Salle	Thompson (Red Deer)
Latulippe	Thomson (Battleford
Lewis	Kindersley)
Lundrigan	Valade
MacDonald (Egmont)	Woolliams
MacEwan	Yewchuk—101.

NAYS

Messrs:

Beer
Benson
Blair
Blouin
Borrie
Boulanger