

the Union Jack. It was done in the Province of Ontario and perhaps it was done in some other provinces as well. I am not sure of that. But I know it was done in Ontario. I do not disapprove of that. But what I do complain about is that the same thing was not done in the Province of Quebec for the fleur-de-lis. In that respect the Province of Quebec is not as far advanced as the Province of Ontario.

I should also say that in my view the national flag has its right to a place in our churches as well as in the public square. Take for instance, the tricolour of France—blue, white and red. If you visit the greatest church in Europe where the kings of France were crowned, Notre Dame de Paris, there you will see the French flag, the tricolour, hanging, just as you will see the Union Jack in Westminster Abbey and, indeed, in Westminster Cathedral, because the English-speaking Roman Catholics have the same respect for the British flag as do the Anglicans.

As I have said, I regret that in the Province of Quebec the schoolchildren have not stood at attention at least before the flag of the province before we had a national flag of our own. But if they were not called upon to stand and salute a flag, it was because the people of the Province of Quebec were intelligent enough to understand that the Union Jack, although it is perhaps the most beautiful flag in the world, was not the flag of our country. It may be the flag of the Commonwealth but it is not the flag of Canada, and that is why the people of the province of Quebec had enough judgment to decide that the schoolchildren should not salute a flag that was not that of their own country.

The people of the Province of Quebec want only one thing in this country; they want to be respected and to enjoy peace. That is all they want. They do not want to quarrel with Canadians from any other province. They respect them, but they also realize, since they are not parochial, that Canada does not stop at the boundaries of their own province. They realize that as they are at home in the Province of Quebec they should also be at home in any other part of Canada from coast to coast, and that is why I am happy to make the comparison between the St. Lawrence at Rivière du Loup and the Juan de Fuca Strait at Victoria. From my verandah in Rivière du Loup I can see the Laurentian Mountains 20 miles away across the river. From there I can see beautiful sunsets. In the same way the people from Victoria, British Columbia, see the impressive Olympic Mountains in the State of Washington. The difference is that the mountains across from Victoria are in the United States, while the mountains that

I can see in Quebec are part of our own country and part of our own heritage.

I hope you will understand that when somebody listens to a speech like that made by my honourable friend, a speech of which he could never be proud, while it may not provoke me to indignation—because I like him and I have consideration for him, as I have for all my colleagues—it may arouse in me regret that he had not taken the trouble to inform himself when he was chairman of the Land Use Committee of the situation existing in this country. In that committee he had people coming from all parts of the country and from all parts of the Province of Quebec. They told him about the difficulties of the settlers, although there are as many prosperous farmers in the Province of Quebec as there are in other parts of Canada. Perhaps they do not use mechanization as much as is done in the west, but they are progressive farmers. They are up-to-date farmers who can be compared favourably with anyone. But he did not take advantage of his chairmanship to become informed about the vital problems of Canada, and when I think that the gentleman has spoken in that manner of my Province of Quebec—the province where I am living—I am so disappointed that I cannot express it.

I must tell him something, and I could exchange notes with him, as I could with any English-speaking colleague, about what my family has done as Canadians. In the first place, my maternal great-grandfather, Louis Bertrand, who was born early in the last century, was elected in the 1830s by acclamation as the member for Rimouski, which at that time included Témiscouata. He voted for the 92 resolutions to promote responsible government, and when Robert Baldwin was defeated in York he offered his seat to him, and Baldwin became the member for Rimouski. The thing was done with the help of my paternal grandfather, Jean Baptiste Pouliot.

Moreover, I can tell you that my grandfather, who was a member of the Legislative Assembly, voted against Confederation because he thought it meant legislative union. He was one of the parliamentarians who signed a petition to Lord Carnarvon for the delaying of the adoption of the British North America Act so that the Maritime provinces would have a breathing spell and time to organize themselves to face the situation, and thus be happier in Canada.

I am not going to insist on it, but I can tell you that in my family the speeches of Edward Blake, of Mills, of Alexander Mackenzie, of Cartwright and many other English-speaking Liberals were translated