

NON-CONTENTS:

The Honourable Messieurs

Baird,	Edwards,
Belcourt,	Kerr,
Bolduc,	Lougheed,
Bostock,	McKay
Bowell	(Cape Breton),
(Sir Mackenzie),	Ross (Moosejaw),
Casgrain,	Ross (Middleton),
Dandurand,	Talbot,
David,	Taylor,
Dennis,	Watson—18.

Hon. Mr. LAVERGNE—I move that this Bill be not now read, as it is not printed in French.

Some hon. GENTLEMEN—Too late.

Hon. Mr. LAVERGNE—I do not care for any of the gentlemen here; I am my own boss; I do not recognize any boss. I am a senator, and I speak in my own name. I oppose this reading because it is an outrage on the French language. I know this Government is not willing to give justice to the French people. I have observed it on many occasions. I have asked many a time to get French documents, but could not get them. Now it is not because this Bill is not right otherwise, but because it is not printed in French, and the Government has no right to pass this Bill unless it is printed and distributed to the membs in French. That is a constitutional right.

Some hon. GENTLEMEN—Hear, hear.

The SPEAKER—I believe that the point is taken too late.

Some hon. GENTLEMEN—No, no.

The SPEAKER—The question is on the third reading.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN—Oh, no. Hon gentlemen, the Speaker has—

Hon. Mr. POWER—There cannot be any debate when the vote is being taken

Hon. Mr. CLORAN—But the hon. senator has just declared, in answer to the member from Arthabaska, that his motion not to proceed further with the Bill should be adopted on the ground that the Bill is not in French; that is his constitutional privilege.

The SPEAKER—I ruled that this motion was out of order. Now you have a right to appeal from my decision.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN—That is what I want to do, if I can get a seconder.

Hon. Mr. LAVERGNE—I will second it.

Hon. Mr. DAVIS.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN—Then I appeal from the decision of the Chair

Hon. Mr. CHOQUETTE—Too late.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN—It is not too late, not before the legislation is passed.

Hon. Mr. CHOQUETTE—We can protest.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN—A protest does not count for anything I appeal from the decision of the Chair, seconded by hon. Senator Lavergne, in the interests of bilingualism.

The SPEAKER—The question is on the decision of the Speaker; shall the decision of the Speaker be sustained?

Some hon. GENTLEMAN—Carried.

The SPEAKER—The decision of the Speaker is sustained.

The Bill was then read the third time as amended, and adopted on a division.

The Senate adjourned until three o'clock this afternoon.

Second Sitting.

The SPEAKER (Hon. Mr. Landry) took the Chair at 5.30 o'clock.

Routine proceedings.

THE ABSENCE OF SPEAKER LANDRY.

The SPEAKER—In resuming my seat, I would like to give only one word of explanation for my recent absence.

I shall not refer to the past only to say that, though I attach very little importance to the fact that my last two decisions have been reversed, I confess that I felt deeply the defection of Conservative friends which has been manifested by the hostile vote of some of them by, the abstention of some others. That reason alone prompted me to decline to preside over a House which failed to give me the expected support.

Now that all contentious matters have been settled, without any participation of mine, I feel it my duty to take part in the closing of Parliament, and to be at my post at this last call of the Crown.

I do so all the more willingly because I have received the best assurances that my last decisions were strictly in conformity with the law, and that action will be taken which will ensure the full recognition of my rights as Speaker of this House.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN—Is there any comment to be made on that statement?