

Africa" and then "Zuid Afrika." On the other side of the coin I find: "Georgius V Rex Imperator." I go right down the line of the eight coins I have here and find that each one is inscribed in both English and Dutch, though section 137, to which I referred, makes no more and no less reference to the printing of coinage in both languages than I mentioned. I spent the last pound note I had in South Africa, and I spent it with pleasure, but even the paper money was printed in the English language on one side and in the Dutch language on the other.

I put this to you, Mr. Speaker: Is South Africa in any worse position to-day because, not only in theory but in practice, in mind and heart and soul it is a bilingual country? Is South Africa in any worse position because English and Dutch documents emanating from the central authority are printed in English and in the Dutch language? Is South Africa less loyal to the crown because it is a bilingual country? I have confidence in the descendants of those who were responsible for this great confederation; I am sure all of us in this parliament are imbued with the sentiments expressed at that time, of mutual respect, esteem and the desire for cooperation. Sir, may I say to you that no better gesture along that line could be made than the unanimous adoption of this measure, which in due time would result in our currency becoming bilingual.

Hon. MAURICE DUPRE (Solicitor General) (Translation): Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to express myself in the English language, because my friends on this side of the house, without exception, and all those from Quebec are well aware of my attitude on this question of bilingualism. In order that there be no misunderstanding, I wish to immediately state that I am in favour of bilingual currency such as advocated by my hon. friend for Bellechasse (Mr. Boulanger).

A motion similar to the one now before the house was moved by yourself, Mr. Speaker, on February 25, 1907, when as now you were the member for Montmorency, and I remember the two remarkable speeches delivered in this house on that occasion by yourself and by the distinguished member for Labelle (Mr. Bourassa). It matters not to me that on that unique occasion Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who was then in power with a big majority, and his party did not favour the motion. It does not matter to me whether from 1907 to 1911, and from 1921 to 1930, our Liberal friends did not display the same zeal for the cause of bilingualism that they are

showing now when they are sitting on the cold benches of the opposition. I presume it was an oversight on their part; but the question for me is simply this: Is the principle of bilingual state currency, notes and bonds, a sound principle? My answer is yes.

What is the status of the French language at the present time? To answer that question I must go back to 1840. At that time, during the third and fourth years of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, there was passed an act, which is 3 and 4 Victoria, chapter 35, to reunite the provinces of lower and upper Canada. By this act the French language was prohibited, but this prohibition was lifted on August 14, 1848, by 11 and 12 Victoria, chapter 56. I should like to direct the attention of the house to that chapter. It is entitled:

An act to repeal so much of an act of the third and fourth years of her present majesty, to reunite the provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, and for the government of Canada, as related to the use of the English language in instruments relating to the legislative council and legislative assembly of the province of Canada.

This is how the statute reads:

Whereas by an act passed in the session of parliament held in the third and fourth years of her present majesty, intituled an act to reunite the provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, and for the government of Canada, it is amongst other things enacted, that from and after the said reunion of the said two provinces, all writs, proclamations, instruments for summoning and calling together the legislative council and legislative assembly of the province of Canada, and for proroguing and dissolving the same, and all writs of summons and elections—

I should like to direct attention to the following words:

—and all writs and public instruments whatsoever relating to the said legislative council and legislative assembly, or either of them, and all returns to such writs and instruments, and all journals—

I should like to direct particular attention to the next words:

—entries and written or printed proceedings of what nature soever, of the said legislative council and legislative assembly, and of each of them respectively, and all written and printed proceedings and reports of committees of the said legislative council and legislative assembly respectively, shall be in the English language only: Provided always, that the said enactment should not be construed to prevent translated copies of any such documents being made, but no such copy should be kept among the records of the legislative council or legislative assembly, or be deemed in any case to have the force of an original record:

And whereas it is expedient to alter the law in this respect, in order that the legislature of the province of Canada, or the said legislative council and legislative assembly respectively,