

those journalists will not do that of themselves, I have appealed to the subscribers to drop their papers. Speaking for myself, I pledge myself to send back any Catholic paper—even though it be printed in Rome—that may contain a single attack upon our friends the Orangemen. I will refuse it, though it be printed in Shediak, or by my best friend. It is peace we want, and to secure it we have to resort to means to bring it about. Ignorance is the cause of the bitterness that exists; it is because we do not come in contact one with another, because we do not show one another the best part of ourselves, when we come in contact with our people from Ontario, or they with our French from Quebec or New Brunswick. When they understand us they find us most excellent persons, with no hostile intent, and not as in the Middle Ages, wolves seeking occasion to devour one another. Just one instance, to show how easy it is to change a situation. Some ten years or more ago I was travelling in the province of Quebec with my hon. friend the present Minister of Militia, General Hughes. We were passing Joliette, a county where there are not ten English electors. It was on the eve of a general election. The people knew that Sam Hughes, as they called him then and call him now—possibly history to the most remote future will call him Sam Hughes—was coming, and gathered there. The train stopped. Mr. Hughes knew there was a gathering. He knew they were expecting a speech from him, and he prepared himself for the occasion; he was graciously received; he made a speech, told them things; he was witty; he is always witty, but he was very witty that time; among other things he told them that he had some French blood in him, that the best blood he had in him was that portion which was French. That tickled them, and they cheered him. Finally, one of them proposed that the local candidate should resign and that they should have Mr. Hughes as their candidate for Joliette, others responded and there was a clamour for Sam Hughes to come and accept the candidature for Joliette. Mr. Hughes told them that he regretted very much that he had already consented to run for another constituency, and the train moved on. But he confided to me that he was inclined to accept it, and that he thought he could handle singlehanded the county of Joliette. He might have. Hon. Gentlemen, that intercourse for only half an hour seemed

to change the whole complexion of things. What would be the result if we were to come together more often in that fine spirit of fraternity, of camaraderie, and instead of trying to show up the dark sides of one another, we should simply show what magnificent elements exist in men of all nationalities, and especially the people of Canada. If we could cultivate that spirit, the bi-lingual question would soon be settled. I am sorry that almost a stigma rests upon Ontario, of being the only country in the world where French is prohibited.

That is a condition of things that does not do honour to Ontario as a province and should be done away with for good. English speaking people must know that it is impossible to abolish French, and that it is most important that they should learn the language. That fact is very apparent to-day in Europe, to all those who have travelled the world over, and all scholars and students of history. I will give another instance: England to-day speaks English, but do not forget that for 400 or 500 years English was not the official language of England, and that if William the Conqueror and his followers had followed the course that the Romans pursued with conquered nations, the likelihood is that to-day England would be a French-speaking country. For hundreds of years the teaching of English was formally forbidden in England under the most severe penalty. That prohibition aroused the people. There is energy, there is honour, and there are high, strong sentiments in the Anglo-Saxon nation, and instead of French continuing to be officially the language of England, as the Roman language continued to be the language of Italy, of Spain and of France, it was supplanted by English. It was through trying to force, by brutal methods and means, the French language upon such men as Robin Hood, and the Anglo-Saxon race, that the whole thing fell through and English prevailed. I would say to my friends from Ontario that if they want French to gain ground in Ontario then to continually persecute; history shows that their efforts will fail. But if you do so you will cease to be Britons or true to British traditions.

Hon. Mr. COSTIGAN—I cannot forget that when I was elected in the county of Victoria, and went to New Brunswick, I found the late Hon. Francis McPhalen, P.O., there from the county of Kent, and I knew that he was supported by the