

the Bill should not be entertained by this Legislature, he would oppose the second reading, as this was the stage at which a measure should be opposed, if not approved by the House. There were some provisions in the Bill to which objection might be taken, but as these were matters of detail, they could be regulated in Committee.

Hon. Mr. TRUDEL said this question was a very delicate one, and he thought the Senate should stick to a well-defined rule in order to avoid the difficulty which was now suggested to the House. It seemed to him that the principle of the Bill was such as would bring it within the jurisdiction of the local legislatures, and he saw no better reason to admit this measure than the one which had been referred to—the Bill to Incorporate the Christian Brothers. Hon. gentlemen would readily see that whenever religious questions presented themselves, they were very difficult to deal with in this House. For instance, if the Catholics opposed such a Bill as this, it would be attributed to religious feeling. He disclaimed being influenced by such a consideration himself. If such a Bill as this should come before a local legislature, of which he was a Member, he would raise no objection to it; but he could see no difference between a measure to incorporate a private society to carry on the objects of education, and one to incorporate a private company for missionary purposes. He thought the principle was entirely the same. The House would recollect that a Bill was presented at a former Session to incorporate a company in the Lower Provinces, with the object of building ships to be sold in foreign countries, which was rejected by the Private Bills Committee.

Hon. Mr. MILLER—It was sent back by the House, and was afterwards passed.

Hon. Mr. TRUDEL—I think the Bill did not pass.

Hon. Mr. MILLER—It was sent back by the House and finally passed.

Hon. Mr. TRUDEL said he thought not. It seemed to him that all measures of this kind came within the jurisdiction of the local legislatures, and he saw great difficulty in allowing this Bill to pass its second reading. This House should, once and for all, adopt a rule to avoid such difficulties. He regretted that he was obliged to vote against the second reading.

*Hon. Mr. Miller.*

He would do so, not on account of the object of the Bill, but because he thought this Parliament had nothing to do with such a measure.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND could not see any analogy between the Bill to incorporate the Christian Brothers and this measure. The former was to enable a Society to establish educational institutions in the various Provinces of the Dominion. That was in the very teeth, if he might use the expression, of the British North America Act, which declared that all matters relating to education should be dealt with by the legislatures of the various Provinces of the Dominion. The object of the Bill now under consideration was the diffusion of Christian knowledge, not within Provinces of the Dominion, but in India and other foreign countries, and the main object was to enable them to acquire and hold property within the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec. Without this Bill they would have to go to the legislatures of Ontario and Quebec for the powers asked for by them; whereas this House had the power to give them what they demanded in all the Provinces. He believed, therefore, the Bill should be allowed to pass the second reading, and he would vote for it.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL thought the distinction between this Bill and the one referred to was well drawn. There was another view which should induce the House to pass this Bill. It was desirable in any case of doubt—if both the local legislatures and the Dominion Parliament had the power to enact measures of a certain kind, that the Dominion Parliament should arrogate to itself whatever power it could. There was no reason why this House should pass any self-denying ordinances, and say they should not deal with a measure because it could also be dealt with by the local legislatures. If this Society were refused this legislation here they would be obliged to go to the Ontario Legislature and to the Legislature of Quebec to obtain the powers they required—which would undoubtedly be inconvenient to them. He thought, however, there were other objections to the Bill which, while they would not render it necessary for him to vote against it, should be dealt with in Committee. The House would view with jealousy the powers such a society asked