

of the people of the province of Quebec for bills printed in French, or in the two languages, does anybody think the banks would not have met that demand?

As I have said, this question is not practical at all, but sentimental and semi-political. If it were not for the sentimental and political factors it would not be before us. From a purely practical business standpoint there is no necessity for doing anything different from what has been done in the past.

Now, how is this plan going to work out? If the law as it has come from the other House stands, what will happen? If I were a banker in the city of Montreal I should have the right to go to the Central Bank and ask for currency printed in either the French or the English language. What should I do? Should I ask for both kinds? I doubt it very much. The banks will carry currency which, with very minor exceptions, will be the same as they have carried for the last seventy years. In remote places where there are not the same facilities as exist in the cities, but only small branch banks dealing entirely with French Canadian people—there are a great many such communities in the province of Quebec—I dare say all these branch banks will be supplied with French notes. The people of the province of Quebec are familiar with the bilingual situation, but out West the condition is entirely different. While it is true that between Lake Superior and the Pacific Coast there are a number of French settlements, the people out there, as a whole, are not accustomed to the use of bilingual documents. If notes printed in French were circulated in the West we should have a repetition of the same kind of thing that took place prior to the last election and became an issue in a large section of Saskatchewan. As I understand it, money orders printed in the French language were sent out to residents of entirely English-speaking communities. The greatest care should have been exercised in a matter of that kind, but it was not, and a grave mistake was made, from which considerable trouble resulted.

My point is that in the practical working out of the law the managers of banks will have the authority to go to the Bank of Canada and ask for notes in English or French, as desired. These bankers will know their own business and no difficulty whatever will be encountered in the matter. I think that the amount of French notes drifting into English-speaking communities, and English notes into French-speaking communities, will be so small as to be easily taken care of.

Hon. G. PARENT: Honourable senators, I am possibly the cause of this debate, because the amendment for bilingual notes was moved by me in the Banking and Commerce Committee. The discussion we have had here would seem to indicate a belief in some quarters that in bringing this matter to the attention of my colleagues I was actuated by prejudice and partisan motives. I want to assure honourable members that no sentiment of the kind influenced me to the slightest degree. When I moved my amendment I had in mind only some representations that had been made to me, to the effect that it would be more economical to have all our bank notes printed in both languages than to have some in English alone and others in French alone. I acted in good faith, and was convinced, as I still am, that it would be in the best interest of Canada that all the notes of this new bank should be bilingual.

I think the case for the amendment has been well expressed by honourable members on this side who have spoken, and I do not desire to add anything in that connection. But I should like again to assure honourable members that I am not guilty of any of the improper motives that have been imputed.

The Hon. the SPEAKER: It is moved by the Right Hon. Senator Graham, seconded by Hon. Senator Little, that the amendments made by the Committee on Banking and Commerce to Bill 19, an Act to incorporate the Bank of Canada, be concurred in.

In amendment it is moved by the Right Hon. Senator Meighen, seconded by Hon. Senator Calder, that the committee's amendment No. 9 be not concurred in. Amendment No. 9 reads:

Page 12, lines 35, 36 and 37. For the words "Provided that notes in either the English or the French language shall be available as required" substitute, "Provided that each note shall be printed in both the English and the French language."

The amendment of Right Hon. Mr. Meighen was agreed to on the following division:

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Honourable Senators:

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Ballantyne	Marcotte
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(Pembroke)—20.