

the second place, law-abiding people must, at times, give up some of their rights for the general good. I think the Act is in the right direction, and although fears exist in this country at the present time which give it special significance, I think they are greatly exaggerated on both sides. Still, if we had no such grounds for apprehension, it would be wise to have such an Act on the Statute Books, because there may be difficulties in connection with large public works, and circumstances may arise at any time which would render it necessary to put it in force. Such powers, under institutions like ours, are never likely to be abused. The probability is in the other direction: there would be too great hesitation in resorting to extreme measures. I think the law is a very wise one, independent of any circumstances which may be expected to give it special application.

Hon. Mr. RYAN—The occasion of this Bill is an unusual one, and it is very greatly to be regretted that a necessity should arise for infringing on the liberty of the subject. However, it is temporary, and I believe it will serve a good purpose. It is an exceptional law, but that very fact requires that it shall be very stringent. The only objection I would have to the Bill, is that in some particulars it is hardly stringent enough. In the sixth clause I think it is a little vague. It mentions a certain quantity of arms to be taken in any particular house, fixing the number at five. We know that if five stand of arms can be kept in any one house, quite a large depot of arms can be kept in a particular street or locality. I would suggest that the words "exceeding five in number," be struck out of the clause. Then, again, I think the power given for the trial of offenders is not sufficient. It gives the right of trial by jury, and we all know that allows a delay of, perhaps, three to six months; and where political or religious differences may be concerned, it would be exceedingly difficult to get an impartial jury. I shall move, in committee, to amend this clause in such a way as to provide for summary conviction. I think such offences as are contemplated under this Act, should be dealt with in a prompt and summary manner. If delay is allowed, this measure will be altogether without effect.

*Hon. Mr. Miller.*

Hon. Mr. HOPE—I regret very much the supposed necessity of a Bill like this. I think it is a particularly unfortunate one, especially as it appears to apply to the whole of Canada, from Halifax to Victoria, and I am not aware that it is required anywhere except in one municipality. If that municipality is lying in the gutter, I do not see why we should be asked to lie down beside it. That municipality has asked for this Bill; let it apply to that municipality and to that alone. I suppose this Bill when it is passed, will be distributed over Europe by American emigration agents, and people will say: "Why, there is a second Ireland in 'America!'" I should imagine, with the spread of civilization and Christianity, a thing like this would be unnecessary.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL—I am sorry to hear the hon. gentleman making this attack upon the Government.

Hon. Mr. HOPE—I am not attacking the Government, but I remember the coercion bills that used to be passed for Ireland. I was a good deal amused at a letter I received from a friend in Montreal to-day. He expressed the same view that the hon. Senator from Montreal did—that those people ought not to be tried by a jury. In Montreal they are very attentive to business, but they do not give much attention to municipal matters. In the Western cities there is no necessity for this Bill. As a matter of public policy, I disapprove of all processions on public streets, which belong to Her Majesty, and should be used for the ordinary intercourse of life and for the ordinary traffic of the country. They were never intended for processions—Protestant, Catholic or any other kind. I think every man ought to worship God after the dictates of his own conscience; but people who display their religion in the streets are like those Pharisees who loved to take prominent seats in the synagogues. If this Bill is a necessity, I should like it to point out the municipality where it is required, and it will be time enough to extend it to other parts of the Dominion when circumstances call for such a measure.

Hon. Mr. GIRARD—I think this Bill may be very useful. No doubt crimes of