

dear to me. My friend referred yesterday to something which is engraved on the entrance to the Parliament Buildings. I am not concerned about that: what appears there is rightly there. But I would suggest to you that this is no time for a discussion on this matter. I understand that at the next session an opportunity will be given to debate this subject, and if I am still in this house at that time I shall take part.

Honourable senators, the preamble to the British North America Act starts by saying:

Whereas the provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick have expressed their desire to be federally united into one dominion under the Crown . . .

I shall not read the whole of the preamble, but section 3 reads:

It shall be lawful for the Queen, by and with the advice of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, to declare by proclamation that, on and after a day therein appointed, not being more than six months after the passing of this Act, the provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick shall form and be one dominion under the name of Canada; and on and after that day those three provinces shall form and be one dominion under that name accordingly.

So that what was created at that time was one dominion bearing the name of Canada, and when you say "Canada" today you are in effect saying the Dominion of Canada. It means the same thing. Canada is my country, and it is still the Dominion of Canada. By taking the word "dominion" out of the statute you are not changing the status of the country. We still belong to the dominion that was created in 1867, and to my knowledge no amendment to the British North America Act has been passed to change our status. We are still the Dominion of Canada.

A great fuss was made in the other house about what was done by the Statute of Westminster. Just what was done under that Statute? The preamble starts off:

Whereas the delegates of His Majesty's Governments in the United Kingdom, the Dominion of Canada, the Commonwealth of Australia, the Dominion of New Zealand . . .

And so on. Then we come to section 1 of the statute:

In this Act the expression "Dominion" means any of the following dominions, that is to say, the Dominion of Canada, the Commonwealth of Australia, the Dominion of New Zealand, the Union of South Africa . . .

So in this statute the same power which created what was sought by our provinces in 1867 uses the term "Dominion of Canada", because that is what we are, and we are proud to be the Dominion of Canada.

We have read reports in press, especially in Quebec, that we should get rid of the word "Dominion". I remember a discussion a

few years ago about the dictionary meaning of the word "Dominion", and the word was defined quite differently in the various dictionaries. The word "dominion" connotes a power, a sovereignty, and yet under the Statute of Westminster we have the same powers and authority as has England, and the Commonwealth of Australia.

So I say to my friend from Northumberland: "I share your sentiments, I too am proud of the word 'Dominion'." It symbolizes our birth as a nation. Canada has acquired maturity and today is an equal partner with its sister dominions in the British Commonwealth of Nations. We are proud of Canada and we are proud of the name "The Dominion of Canada."

Hon. L. M. Gouin: Honourable senators, in view of what has just been said by the senator from Ponteix (Hon. Mr. Marcotte) and what was said yesterday by our colleague from Northumberland (Hon. Mr. Burchill), I consider it my duty to make a few remarks. The senator from Ponteix, who is well aware of my very deep friendship for him, is proud of the word "Dominion". He considers that it has no connotation of dependency or subordination. He referred to section 3 of the British North America Act, where, as I freely admit, we find the word "Dominion". He referred also to the Statute of Westminster, 1931, where again the word "Dominion" is to be found. And if I understand him correctly he takes the position that until the British North America Act is amended we must continue to use the word—he considers it the "good old word"—"Dominion", I am sorry, but I disagree entirely with him—we differ *toto coelo* on this point. Even though we find in the British North America Act the word "Dominion" and the expression "federal union", I see no reason why it should be necessary to use either that word or that expression invariably when referring to Canada.

But it seems to me that the question before us is much more limited in scope than would appear from the remarks that have been made by previous speakers and that I am now making. The point is whether we should change the title of the Dominion Elections Act to "The Canada Elections Act". Well, to be quite frank, I think that the word "Dominion" which was used in 1867, because no other term could be decided upon at the time, is a survival of the past. In the meantime Canada has marched on, and it will continue to march on. These remarks do not imply any disloyalty at all. I have, with the help of God, done my best to serve my Lord, my King and my country. But