

could the product would be worthless. The fruitless and irritating attempt to denationalize him should be given up forever.

The time has come when this situation must be faced frankly and squarely. To allow it to drag along will only make matters worse. It is more fitting to think about it and more necessary to endeavour to settle it now than it is to deal with those after-war measures to which I have referred.

French Canadians are sometimes charged with provincialism, with Chauvinism. It is charged that their vision does not extend much beyond the limits of their province. When they are told that they may not elsewhere speak their language or exercise the rights and privileges which they exercise when they live in the province of Quebec, is it any wonder, that they are attracted to the soil of their own province more than to the rest of Canada? Treat them with equal liberality and their provincialism will disappear at once.

Why not frankly recognize that both races have qualities and have defects? Why not admire and endeavour to imitate our respective virtues, and be tolerant with regard to our respective faults or defects? Would you have a better understanding and a more thorough conception of the irritation which is to be found all over French Canada if I mentioned to you the fact that to-day in the province of Ontario the world-hated German enjoys privileges which are denied the French-Canadian people in this province?

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL: Nothing of the kind.

Hon. Mr. BELCOURT: It is so, and I will prove it to you. I expected my honourable friend to say no, and I have the proof right here. I know my honourable friend would be shocked at hearing such a thing; who would not be? But this is a fact. One of the regulations which govern education in this province is Regulation 15.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL: We have heard that often.

Hon. Mr. BELCOURT: Well, you have forgotten it.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL: No, I have not. The honourable gentleman makes a total misrepresentation of the facts in connection with it.

Hon. Mr. BELCOURT: Misrepresentation? I give that as a fact, and I am going to prove it to my honourable friend, and I invite him to listen to me; this is an im-

portant matter. Regulation 15, one of the regulations governing education in this province is as follows:

In school sections where the French or German language prevails, the trustees may, in addition to the Course of Study prescribed for public schools, require instruction to be given in reading, grammar and composition to such pupils as are directed by their parents or guardians to study either of these languages, and in all such cases the authorized text books in French or German shall be used.

This regulation 15 has been in force and acted on ever since and even before Confederation, up to the time when Regulation 17 was enacted in 1912.

Regulation 17 has repealed that provision in regard to French, and left intact the provision in regard to German, and I defy my honourable friend to prove the contrary.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL: No.

Hon. Mr. BELCOURT: It is all very well for my honourable friend to say no, but I defy him to prove the contrary. I know what I am talking about. The people of the province of Quebec know that, and are you surprised at their irritation, at their deep resentment, when they know that the Germans in this province of Ontario get and enjoy rights and privileges which are denied to them? I wish to emphasize the fact that they have to pay a fine of \$500 or go to jail if regulation 17 is violated. That is the position. We have stood that for five years in this province. Nobody listens to us except it is my honourable and venerable friend, who says that we are liars. Nobody will listen to us; the whole answer to our statements and arguments is invariably "No." There is no use in talking to people of this kind, for they think that we are not capable of telling the truth. I regret that I have taken so much time.

I did not intend to do it; but, as I have gone into this subject most thoroughly and carefully, and as I know what I am talking about, and as I am making those statements deliberately, knowing that I stand absolutely on uncontradictable ground, I think it is better that we should have this question out, and see if some impression can be made. My sole purpose and object is to try to waken the people of this province to the reality of the conditions which exist. I do not want any more laughing things away in this fashion; the time is past for that. You of the English-speaking provinces have got to deal with this question, honourable gentlemen, and the sooner the better. I am uttering a solemn warning and a solemn

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