

of the Bill is a comparatively new one to me. One who lives in the East must almost learn another language in order to understand the verbiage, the phrases and words, that are used in connection with it. The only thing that is helpful at all is the knowledge of trade in other products such as we have, on a smaller scale, in the eastern Provinces. That may help a little towards understanding about the shipment of grain, but in the East we know practically nothing about the grain trade. The whole matter dealt with in this Bill was technical, but I think that after a time I arrived at a point where I understood the real difference between these parties.

From the beginning to the end I have considered this Bill with absolute impartiality. For weeks while it was before Parliament I had no view as to whether I would support it or vote against it, and that is the position that I occupy now. I do not care which party it affects, but I want to get at what is the right thing to do between these two business concerns, which we may call A and B. I am not going to be a party to passing legislation to help A to hurt B, or to enable B to hurt A. Here are two business concerns, and there is a good deal to be said in favour of the view that the honourable member from De Salaberry (Hon. Mr. Béique) takes of it. His mind meets mine on many things that come up here. After all, it might be thought best to keep hands off, and let this matter go back to the parties concerned, and let them fight it out as to what their rights are. There would be a good deal to say for that, but I am not tied down to that position. Someone may give a good reason why we should not do that.

I doubt very much whether my honourable friend or any other man in this House can work this Bill with a view to getting anything like political support out of it. If we adopt the Bill without qualification, or kill it without qualification, we are going to offend somebody. There are two rival parties, and they cannot be mixed. There are amendments suggested, but the difficulty about the matter is that, as the mover of the Bill says, there is now no one who has authority to accept or not accept them. However, we are on the eve of receipt of information which will perhaps clear up that difficulty. I cannot see that the world will go to pieces if this House adjourns till 3 o'clock, by which time there should be an answer to these telegrams.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I did not object to the adjournment till this afternoon, but I thought I owed a loyal statement to the Senate as to what I viewed the situation to

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be—that many members who want to support the motion for the adoption of the first clause will be forced to accept amendments without knowing whether there is a majority in favour of the first clause. That is all I was saying, and I thought that such members of the Senate could turn that over in their minds; but my good friend from Manitoba (Hon. Mr. Sharpe)—and I have a grievance against him—drew some heat from me by accusing me of playing politics. I regret that my honourable friend was cute enough to arouse me by his interjection. I regret it.

Hon. W. B. ROSS: I want to say a word on another matter on which perhaps I seem to have a different mind from that of the honourable gentlemen of the other side, and possibly from that of some members on this side, that is, about the wickedness of attending a caucus. I think it is a part of a liberal education to attend a caucus of one's party, and hear what is said. How can one know the minds of people without that?

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: You might catch a microbe.

Hon. W. B. ROSS: Well, you have got to get it killed in some way. You will never progress if you are frightened of catching things, you know; you have to keep going ahead. I attend a caucus occasionally, and I must say I never attend one without being benefitted. Sometimes we hear folly, and sometimes we hear wisdom, but we have to make the best of it. I am unrepentant on that point, too.

Hon. Mr. GORDON: I would like to say a word or two before the adjournment. I must say that no Bill has ever come before this House that has had more attention and consideration from me than this particular Bill. I disagree with some members here who think this is a question which should be left in the hands of the Western members. The whole Bill resolves itself into one practical consideration that any man should be able to deal with; and from the evidence I have heard in the Banking and Commerce Committee, and the explanations that have been made in this House, I am prepared to exercise my judgment either on the Bill itself or on the suggested amendments. As I said last night, there are two contending factions, and I think it is our plain duty to allow them to get together and agree, if possible, as to what they will be satisfied with. I think, therefore, that it is wise to wait for replies to the telegrams which the sponsor of this Bill has sent. Everyone must realize that he was in an impossible position last night.