

there, except the shaking of hands; yet one of the premiers suggested that each province and the Government of Canada subscribe \$500,000 to erect a monument, to cost \$5,500,000, to commemorate Confederation in the smallest of all the provincial capitals of Canada. It was built and jointly paid for. It was an advertising feat that had no parallel, even in the United States where they know how to boost everything.

That being said, I had the satisfaction of telling the club what I thought about the relations between the provinces and the federal Government. What the Fathers of Confederation had in mind was that everyone should mind his own business, that on one hand the Parliament of Canada should have exclusive powers and on the other hand the provincial legislatures were also to have differently exclusive powers.

We are under a delusion when we speak of Confederation as we do now, because it is not from the time of the B.N.A. Act that a united Canada existed. It was from the time that Lafontaine and Baldwin met together, joined together and succeeded in having a responsible government for this country. Then we had a united Canada, and other provinces joined us successively later on. But taking the B.N.A. Act as it is, and considering Confederation as it has been described by all those who have spoken about it, we have an act of the Imperial Parliament which defines the rights of the Parliament of Canada and the rights of the provinces, and on both sides they are exclusive, which means that Ottawa cannot infringe upon the rights of the provinces, and the provinces in turn cannot infringe upon the rights and the powers of Ottawa on matters which are respectively exclusive. It is just as clear as crystal water.

But what happens? At the present time there are complaints from the provinces that Ottawa is invading their jurisdiction, and they come to Ottawa not like the burghers of Calais, not with a rope around the neck and with a humble manner, but they come here with a big stick and make threats to the Canadian Government that if they do not get more money they will take steps to prove their discontent in a practical manner. I do not honestly think the Canadian Government should be impressed by the threats, the ultimatums that come from the west coast, from the Province of Quebec or anywhere else. I have great respect for my leader, the Prime Minister of Canada, and for the Leader of the Government in this chamber, but I submit that there should be no appeasement with regard to the provinces. All the dealings with the provinces should be in a business-like manner, and this cannot be as long as the provinces get from

the federal treasury vast amounts for expenditures over which Ottawa has no control.

What I found very hard to digest was the warning of some provincial authorities with regard to the funds coming from Ottawa for purposes of education, that Ottawa had not the right to ask for an accounting. Who would think of that? They ask for more money, and what use is made of the money voted by Ottawa for education?

At first, honourable colleagues, the government in the Province of Quebec years ago decided to pay a subsidy of \$10,000 to each classical college, and there was only one which refused that grant. It was the Seminary of Quebec, which had been founded by the priests at the time of Monsieur de Laval three hundred years ago. They said, "We cannot accept any imposition on our system of education." Now what has happened? More money was given to the colleges and universities, and then they started to spend more and more. Then, when the Government of Canada decided to pay grants to the universities, their expenditure had no limit.

It is very easy to see what is happening. We can go around and see the vast amounts of money which are being spent by the universities—for what? Was it for the education of youth? What is the kind of education they get? Is it worth the money that is spent so lavishly? Very often the answer shall be in the negative. In one of the vital matters, the history of Canada, the teaching is very poor, and similarly in other matters I will not enumerate now because I do not want to keep the house too long.

What do you think of them coming here for further grants without rendering accounts for the grants already made? As Sir Wilfrid Laurier said, it is unsound to collect taxes and give them away to another legislative body for expenditure. But the provinces are very happy. The amount of taxation they impose is less, and then they come to Ottawa and insist on receiving more subsidies for their own ends. Ottawa is not consulted on the expenditures; the provinces decide for themselves, but they always come to Ottawa to ask for more money. What do they do in return? They complain about Ottawa, that Ottawa is a big bad wolf which threatens the autonomy of the provinces—which is untrue. And what do they say? They complain about poverty; they say they are underprivileged. That may be true of some sections of the country, which I will not name, but they are very few.

I know very well that Canada is a rich country, a country with great possibilities but, as our Lord said, we should have compassion for the poor, the poor shall always be with