

Act which these people are loudly championing that section 80 prevents the legislature of Quebec from interfering with the boundaries of these twelve electoral districts without the consent of the majority of the members representing these districts. Is that an infringement of provincial rights? If so who introduced that clause, or, who was the means of introducing it? It was no less a person than Sir A. T. Galt, the champion of Protestant interests in the province of Quebec at the time that Canada became a part of confederation. Surely it does not lie in the mouths of papers like the Toronto 'World' the Toronto 'News' to make the statement that provincial rights are being infringed upon when we find that Sir A. T. Galt had that provision inserted in the British North America Act. Then we also find that subsection 2 of section 93 was added at the request of Sir A. T. Galt. That does not apply to any other province; yet the Protestants in that case have the right to their own separate schools in the province of Quebec. We also find that the Catholic minority in the province of Ontario are entitled to separate schools, that it is part of the constitution of Canada and therefore why should not the educational clauses of this Bill go into force and be part of the constitution of the Northwest Territories? I think myself that if the province of Alberta and Saskatchewan are in the company of Ontario and Quebec they are not in very bad company. We find that 75 per cent of the people of Canada at the present time are living under separate schools. We find that the people of Ontario, Quebec and the Northwest Territories are living under a system of separate schools and that they comprise 75 per cent of the population of Canada. Surely if 75 per cent of the people of Canada do not have to groan to live under a system of separate schools there cannot be any reason to complain that these provinces also will continue in the future as they have for thirty years in the past to live under a system of separate schools. It has been stated in certain quarters and by certain parties that the province of Ontario was rather inclined to be an intolerant province. I have lived in that province all my life and have been extensively acquainted throughout that province, and I must say that it is a tolerant province. We know that in the provincial election of 1886, and in subsequent elections, the leaders of the Conservative party sought by all means at their command to deprive the Roman Catholic section of the population of Ontario of their separate schools, to impair and practically destroy their system of separate schools and we know with what result. We know that in each case Sir Oliver Mowat appealed to the broad, tolerant views of the people in regard to separate schools and as to the rights of the minority, and we know that in each

and every one of these cases without exception or reserve Sir Oliver Mowat was returned at the head of the polls. Therefore, I say the people of Ontario are a broad-minded people, that they are not an intolerant people. I regret, however, to say that we have in Ontario some rags like the Toronto 'News' and will mention another paper like the Toronto 'World,' which, for the time being, contain so much inflammable material that they make a great blaze, but it is only a temporary blaze, which, like all 'violent fires soon burn out themselves.' Therefore, I would say to our Catholic brethren who do not know the people of Ontario that they may rest assured that the people of Ontario are a broad-minded people, and I will go further and say that when the right hon. Prime Minister comes to appeal to the people of Ontario on account of the narrow views which have been expressed in opposition to him and when the broad-minded, tolerant people of Ontario come to size up the situation and know the facts they will cast into the fire of rags all such journals as those which I have mentioned and which are trying now to stir up religious strife and animosity. I also wish, Mr. Speaker, to point out the advantage that will result from having peace and harmony assured in the Northwest Territories and from having this Act placed beyond the control of any particular firebrand who may afterwards arise in these new provinces and who may desire to make cheap political capital out of it the same as the hon. member for North Toronto (Mr. Foster), the hon. member for East Grey (Mr. Sproule), and the hon. member for South York (Mr. Maclean). I think it is of the utmost importance that we should have the school system clearly defined as it is in these Bills, so that there will be no bickering, no lawsuits extending over a number of years and no cause for strife in these new provinces. I ask what will be the result? The minority in the Northwest Territories will know that they will be entitled to separate schools, that they will be guaranteed to them. We know that there are thousands of people who are coming from foreign lands, from the United States and other countries, to settle in these new provinces. It is of the utmost importance that we should give every possible encouragement to our friends, Protestant and Roman Catholic, throughout all parts of Canada to locate in these provinces so as to leaven this foreign element with the Canadian spirit. Therefore, I say it is of the utmost importance that we should have that law in force and that we should give every encouragement to the 41 per cent of our Catholic brethren to locate in these provinces, knowing that they are going to a place where they are at liberty to have conscientious scruples regarding education respected and where they are at liberty to teach their children as they may see fit in matters of religion.