

This principle has always been recognized in the school system of Germany, and has without doubt largely contributed to its splendid success. The fact that this principle is also recognized by our school system here, has been in my opinion a very strong incentive to induce so many Germans during the past few years to leave the States where this principle is not recognized, and locate here in the Territories.

Yours truly,

(Sgd.) F. J. LANGE.

I might state that the German Catholic colonists whom Mr. Lange speaks for are all immigrants from the United States. Here we have expressions of opinion from two authoritative sources. The Calgary 'Herald' is edited by a leading Conservative member of the Northwest assembly, and I think my hon. friend from Calgary will agree with me when I say that his opinion is worth something in that western country.

I will now read for the benefit of hon. members an account of a meeting held in the city of Regina on Monday night, April 3rd. It will give the House a very fair idea of the futile attempts being made to excite the passions of the people. The extract I read is the report of the meeting published in the Regina 'Leader' of the 5th instant, a paper edited by my hon. friend from Western Assiniboia (Mr. Scott), and is as follows:

The public meeting held last Monday night on the proclamation of the mayor in response to a petition of a number of citizens, called for the purpose of 'discussing the terms of the Autonomy Bill now before the parliament' was one of the most largely attended gatherings yet held in the city hall. Mayor Laird presided, and amongst the speakers were Dr. W. D. Cowan, president of the Conservative Association; Dr. Wm. Elliott, Commissioner of Agriculture; Mr. A. B. Dunnett; Mr. J. K. McInnis, editor of the 'Standard'; his worship Mayor Laird; Mr. J. F. L. Embury, president of the Young Men's Conservative Association; Mr. Wm. Rothwell; ex-Councillor D. A. Macdonald and Mr. A. L. Gordon.

After a lengthy discussion Mr. Macdonald moved and Mr. A. L. Gordon seconded a resolution endorsing Mr. Haultain's course in connection with the question of autonomy. Mr. J. K. McInnis questioned whether such a motion was in order. Upon Mayor Laird ruling the motion in order Mr. McInnis moved in amendment 'That the meeting do now adjourn.' Ex-Mayor Smith seconded the amendment which, upon being put to the meeting, was carried by an overwhelming majority, and the gathering dispersed.

The mayor who presided, is one of the leading Conservatives of the city of Regina, and the promoters of the meeting were largely if not all, Conservatives. So there was no lack of party generals to engineer the meeting. But the result shows that the good people of the capital of the Territories will not be stampeded into an agitation at once mischievous and unpatriotic. If the yellow journals of the city of Toronto—and I do not think I should apologize for

that statement—are looking to the Territories for inspiration, they will fail of their purpose. The people there who understand the question, and most of them do, are perfectly satisfied with the provisions now before the House. The people who express any dissatisfaction at all are those who do not understand the question; and the people in the Territories who do not understand the question are very well represented by a gentleman who, in a letter read by the hon. member for Eastern Assiniboia (Mr. Turriff) on the floor of this House, protested against the course of the government in imposing these resolutions on the country, and demanded that the system now in vogue in the Territories should be continued.

I will not trespass upon the patience of the House by reading other expressions of opinion. I have many of them under my hand, but the two or three that I have read I regard as important as representing the opinion of the four corners of the Northwest Territories. I would like, however, just simply to quote in passing a very significant headline over an article written by a correspondent of the Toronto 'Globe,' who was sent into the Territories to learn at first hand the opinion of the people. My hon. friend from Western Assiniboia (Mr. Scott) quoted very largely from the article which this correspondent wrote, but I will simply quote the head-line. In that head-line, the correspondent says: 'No agitation could be raised in the west if the present system is maintained.' Then, I ask, why raise an agitation in the east? If it is impossible to raise an agitation in the country directly interested, surely it is going somewhat beyond the proprieties to undertake to engineer an agitation of this kind in the east. A few newspapers in Toronto, with their violent editorials and still more violent cartoons, and perhaps a few newspapers in the province of Quebec, do not represent the sober thought of the people of Canada. They represent only the extreme sections of both parties, and it seems to me that the government, in taking a middle course—you may call it a compromise if you wish—is performing a service to Canada which all peace loving and progressive citizens will in a very short time learn to appreciate and applaud.

Having, in a very feeble way, tried to show that to continue the present school system would be satisfactory to the people, let me ask if the policy of the government is safe and conducive to the future peace and prosperity of the country. I shall for the moment assume the position of an extreme advocate of national schools and see where I might land if I were to accept the amendment of the leader of the opposition. Not being a lawyer, I shall not attempt to interpret the constitution, and I think I may well be excused from making the attempt when I find so many eminent legal gentlemen,