

and if it is as unsatisfactory to the other members on this side of the House as it is to me I am willing to let it go for what it is worth.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. I do not think that is quite right; I do not think it is quite right for my hon. friend to take that position. There is a distinct rule laid down in books on parliamentary procedure that if an hon. gentleman in this House says that his remarks were not intended to bear a certain meaning that must be accepted unreservedly.

Mr. BELCOURT. I have accepted the statement the hon. gentleman has made.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. My hon. friend (Mr. Belcourt) has not accepted it in my opinion.

Mr. A. LAVERGNE. Leave it to the 'Hansard.'

Mr. TAYLOR. The 'Hansard' does not prove it.

Mr. BELCOURT. I think I may go on.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Order.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER. The hon. member for Ottawa (Mr. Belcourt) states that he understood the hon. member for Toronto (Mr. Foster) to state a certain thing. The hon. member for Toronto (Mr. Foster) gives an explanation and the hon. member for Ottawa (Mr. Belcourt) is willing to accept the new statement. I think the point of order is all settled.

Mr. BELCOURT. I said I accepted the statement of the hon. member for Toronto (Mr. Foster).

Mr. INGRAM. Then we understand that the member for Ottawa—

Some hon. MEMBERS. Sit down; order, order.

Mr. INGRAM. I will ask Mr. Speaker—

An hon. MEMBER. There is no point of order.

Mr. INGRAM. I am in order; I want to know first whether or not—

Some hon. MEMBERS. Order.

Mr. INGRAM—the member for Ottawa—

Some hon. MEMBERS. Sit down.

Mr. BELCOURT. Mr. Speaker—

Mr. INGRAM. Mr. Speaker I ask your ruling.

Mr. BELCOURT. Order.

Mr. INGRAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to a point of order.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Order.

Mr. INGRAM. I can stay here all night if my hon. friends—

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER. I understand you rise to a point of order.

Mr. INGRAM. I do.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER. Please state it.

Mr. INGRAM. I want to know through you whether the member for Ottawa used the words 'to pay' and whether that is in order?

Mr. BRODEUR. That is decided.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER. I have given my ruling. The hon. member for Ottawa (Mr. Belcourt) may have summarized unjustly the member for Toronto, but the member for Ottawa (Mr. Belcourt) has declared that he accepted the statement of the member for Toronto (Mr. Foster). I have given my ruling.

Mr. BELCOURT. We are told that in this matter we should rely upon the spirit of fair-play and justice of the people in the new territories. I was proceeding to tell the House that we must in this matter remember Manitoba, when I was interrupted by the member for North Toronto (Mr. Foster). I wish to say that in my own judgment in matters of this kind we ought to do what good business people do in every day dealings and transactions. Whilst people believe and take it for granted that other people are honest and intend to be honest until the contrary is proven, yet they make an agreement, when they decide upon something, they reduce it to writing. Until the day of universal fair-play and justice, until the day of universal honesty, which I think most will admit is not going to be in the very near future, I think people will continue to have more confidence in and to place more reliance upon the written agreements of other people than they will upon their spirit of fair-play and justice. That rule applies to nations as well as to individuals.

We have made an agreement, we have decided what is to be done with reference to those new provinces and it is far better for the peace of this country, far better for every consideration, that that agreement should be committed to writing as it is by enacting section 16. When we look at what section 16 merely perpetuates it is astounding to hear the objections that are made to it. Section 16 simply consecrates the principle of religious instruction in the school, and I should like to ask: What principle is violated; what wrong, legal, moral, natural, or constitutional is done? Does the exercise of the privilege claimed by the minority cause injury to anybody; does it entail upon any one in this wide Dominion the deprivation of any right or any privilege; does it take anything away from anybody; does it hurt, hamper or injure any one in the slightest degree; does it do