

tleman just now made because it was not a candid and honest statement.

Mr. FOSTER. Then if my hon. friend will allow me—

Some hon. MEMBERS. Order, order.

Mr. BELCOURT. The hon. gentleman—

Some hon. MEMBERS. A point of order.

Mr. FOSTER. I rise to a point of order.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER. The hon. gentleman (Mr. Foster) is rising to a point of order.

Mr. FOSTER. My point of order is simply this, that I have been misrepresented, whether knowingly or not.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Order.

Mr. FOSTER. I am quite competent to state my point of order and any one who takes exception to it may do so afterwards. But let me state my point first. I rise to this point that whether knowingly or unknowingly the member for Ottawa (Mr. Belcourt) has misrepresented my position and he has—

Mr. BELCOURT. I read 'Hansard.'

Mr. FOSTER—and he has misrepresented it on a very vital point.

Mr. BELCOURT. I read 'Hansard.'

Mr. FOSTER. He has declared that my position was this, that I did support remedial legislation in 1896 but that I would not support it again, and have so declared in the House, because it did not pay politically.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Hear, hear.

Mr. FOSTER. Now I think that is as clear a statement as I can make as to what the hon. gentleman has just said. I stated that that was not a proper representation of my position, that I have stated in the House that I was not an adherent of separate schools, but that I believed the constitution of this country gave to a minority one method of access for redress and that after the decision of the courts and the decision of the Privy Council had been given, that road was open and I said I believed that although it was not politically to my advantage, and it was not as I believed politically to the advantage of the party to which I belonged—

Mr. BELCOURT. Mr. Speaker—

Some hon. MEMBERS. Order.

Mr. BELCOURT. Surely that is not a point of order; I would like to know what the point of order is.

Mr. FOSTER. I am stating my position—

Mr. BELCOURT. I would like the hon. gentleman—

Mr. BELCOURT.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Order.

Mr. BELCOURT. I want the hon. gentleman to state what the point of order is?

Some hon. MEMBERS. Order.

An hon. MEMBER. Wait until the Speaker calls him to order.

Mr. FOSTER. The hon. member for Ottawa (Mr. Belcourt) cannot state my point of order. It must be my right to state my point and as he has interrupted me I shall have to commence a little further back than where I left off. I stated that, although I did not believe at the time it was my advantage politically, and I did not believe it was to the advantage of the party to which I belonged politically, I believed it was constitutionally right and that I did it because I believed it was constitutional and that it was my duty to do it. Then I said after that had taken place there was a power higher than the constitution and that power was the sovereign will of the people; that after the position was laid before the people in 1896 in 1900 and in 1904 the people by their votes had endorsed the party that opposed remedial legislation and consequently, as long as water ran and grass grew, I did not think I would be found in that same programme. Now my position is as I have stated. The statement made by my hon. friend is exactly to the reverse. Mine gives as a reason a regard for the principle of the constitution and a regard for the will of the people. The hon. gentleman stated that my reason was that I would not do it again because it did not pay.

Mr. BELCOURT. Mr. Speaker, I do not wish to continue this acrimonious discussion. I made a statement, I gave the proof and I leave it to the House to judge.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Hear, hear.

Mr. BELCOURT. I have nothing to withdraw, absolutely nothing to withdraw.

Mr. FOSTER. May I ask the hon. gentleman one question? Does he yet persist in saying that I declared yesterday in the House that I would not again vote for remedial legislation because it did not pay?

Some hon. MEMBERS. Hear, hear.

Mr. BELCOURT. I did not make that statement at all; that was not the statement I made.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER. The hon. member for Ottawa (Mr. Belcourt) will admit that it is customary to accept a statement made by a member if he has been wrongly reported, misconstrued, or wrongly understood. The moment a member gives a personal explanation it is customary to accept the explanation.

Mr. BELCOURT. I accept the personal explanation given by the hon. gentleman