

British flag in Canada would be a French Canadian. That compliment paid by one of our governors to the inhabitants of Quebec, might properly, to my mind, be applied to their worthy and loyal descendants who have made their homes in the plains of the great west.

I appeal to my English speaking colleagues in this House; I appeal to their good will and to their spirit of fairness, I beg of them to help in putting a stop to this racial and religious strife which breeds nothing but evil for the country. I ask them, why should we not all, hand in hand, work together towards the aggrandisement of our common country; why should we not, by our common efforts, build up, in this great country, which extends from the Atlantic to the Pacific, a great, strong and united nation?

Mr. G. H. McINTYRE (South Perth). Mr. Speaker, the debate on this important question which has been prolonged for such a great length of time is now in its last stages and as a new member, if I found myself seeing eye to eye in every particular with the party to which I belong, with my Liberal friends generally, it is not likely that I would have felt called upon to make any remarks upon the matter, but as I see somewhat differently from some of my friends, I have thought it wise and proper to put on record the reasons for my action. I have noticed that some speakers, especially in the later stages of the debate, have as it were apologized for speaking owing to the fact that the matter has been so thoroughly threshed out, and all arguments from the various points of view so fully presented to the House that there seemed little left for them to do except to present them again with perhaps a little local colouring from the Speaker's own individuality, and they seemed to regret that it was impossible for them to make their speeches interesting. But as I listened to their speeches I found that they did make them interesting, even in spite of the familiarity of any of the arguments. Not only so, but they made them exceedingly interesting for some of their opponents. I have no such desire or intention in addressing the House tonight. My intention is rather to give an explanation of my position nor will I need, I think, to speak at any length. Many of the speeches, if I may use a little criticism, have been of considerable length and possibly this debate would have been much shorter if each speaker had confined himself very closely to the question at issue. It seems to have been the natural inclination of many to rather criticise the immediately preceding speech. Many speeches have dealt with matters not strictly pertinent to this question, matters such as the boundaries of Manitoba and many matters of that nature entirely outside the question have been discussed at great length. I shall

Mr. BOYER.

endeavour to adhere to the question as closely as possible and I intend no criticism of those who preceded me or who take different views from those which I take. The question itself is certainly an important one. The educational clauses, have been the features of the Bill principally debated. These clauses are not the only nor may we say the principal item in the Bill. They are, however, the features that have caused the greatest antagonism and discussion. In itself the matter of education does necessarily bring about friction of any kind. It so happens, however, that a portion of our people have conscientious views in the matter of the necessity of associating religious teaching with the education of the young and when that happens and it will always happen when a religious turn is given to any question there is the greatest necessity for prudence and moderation of speech. Many gentlemen who have spoken in this debate have been careful and prudent. Some of them I have admired very much; others I am afraid have handled the matter unwisely and in some cases if I may proceed that length in criticism have handled it almost recklessly. It is unfortunate that this should be the case, but I think that the consensus of opinion is that when the matter is handled with any exaggeration of statement the intention of the member is lost, that is the effect of his argument is lost.

The occasion of this Bill is certainly a great event in the history of Canada, an event which you might almost call a national epoch; we have reached a time in the history of our country when we can carve out from these Territories two large and important provinces, and such an occasion ought to be one of great rejoicing. It should be an occasion on which we should all unite together with pride in inaugurating these provinces; it should be such an occasion as one would have in his family say for the coming out party of a daughter or a marriage or the coming of age of a son in whom he has pride, in whom he has great hope and confidence, and it is natural on such an occasion that if it were at all possible all parties should unite together in making it an occasion in which we can drop politics. Unfortunately this event has been marked by a good deal of friction, especially over the educational clauses. In considering such an event it is very natural that the mind should be turned to quite an extent to the progress of our country, that we should turn with pride to the progress we have made, and note how rapidly we are progressing, note to what an extent the commerce and the population of the country have grown, note especially as we listen to the speeches of the various members in this debate the unanimity with which every man speaks with glowing confidence of the future of the country. There is not and has not been a pessimistic note in regard to the future of our country dur-