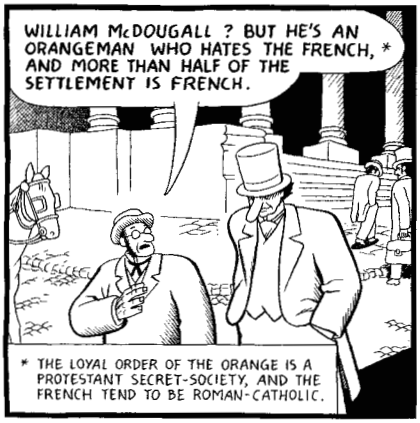
LONDON, ENGLAND -- MARCH 1869:
DO YOU MIND IF WE GO OVER IT AGAIN ? I JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT MY NOTES ARE IN ORDER.
OF COURSE.
SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD -- THE PRIME-MINISTER OF CANADA
OKAY, YOU'RE WILLING TO SELL RUPERT'S LAND TO THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT FOR 300,000 POUNDS.
IN CASH.
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY
RIGHT. YOU'LL GET TO KEEP 45,000 ACRES AROUND YOUR TRADING POSTS, AND WILL GET LAND-GRANTS SCATTERED THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY THAT'LL AMOUNT TO 7,000,000 ACRES.
AND THERE'LL BE NO RESTRICTIONS ON OUR TRADING.
THE TRANSFER'S TO TAKE PLACE ON DECEMBER FIRST OF THIS YEAR. WE'RE AGREED ?
AGREED.
IT'S BEEN A PLEASURE NEGOTIATING WITH YOU, SIR JOHN. I HOPE YOU HAVE AN ENJOYABLE TRIP BACK TO CANADA.
HOW ARE WE GOING TO GOVERN THE RED RIVER SETTLEMENT ?
WE CAN'T ALLOW THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE THERE TO ELECT THEIR OWN REPRESENTATIVES -- NOT YET.

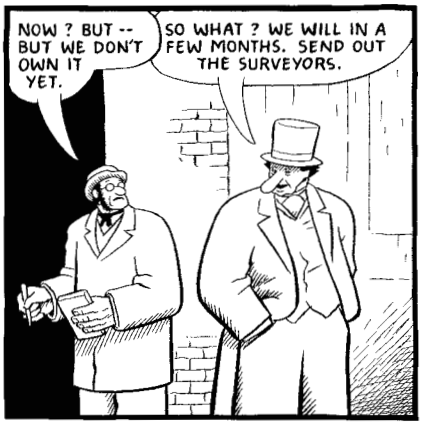
WE'LL APPOINT A COUNCIL TO RUN THINGS. I'LL GET McDOUGALL TO BE THE COUNCIL'S LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.

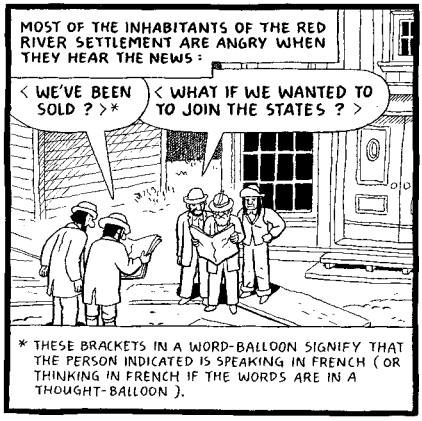

WILLIAM McDOUGALL ? BUT HE'S AN ORANGEMAN WHO HATES THE FRENCH, * AND MORE THAN HALF OF THE SETTLEMENT IS FRENCH.
* THE LOYAL ORDER OF THE ORANGE IS A PROTESTANT SECRET-SOCIETY, AND THE FRENCH TEND TO BE ROMAN-CATHOLIC.

WE DON'T WANT ANOTHER QUEBEC DEVELOPING ON THE RED RIVER. MAKING McDOUGALL THE GOVERNOR WILL DISCOURAGE FRENCH SETTLERS FROM HEADING WEST.

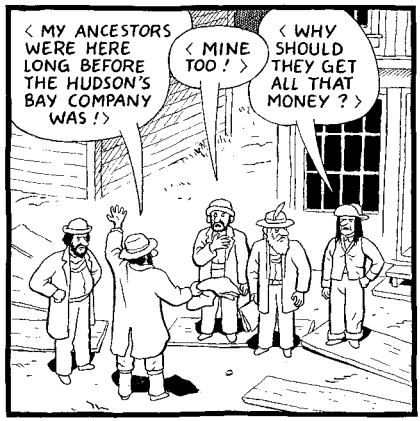
WE SHOULD SEND SURVEYORS TO THE AREA TO SET UP NEW TOWNSHIPS SO THAT WE CAN GET MORE ENGLISH FARMERS OUT THERE SOON. WE CAN GIVE THE SETTLEMENT THE VOTE ONCE WE'VE GOT A GOOD WHITE ENGLISH MAJORITY IN PLACE.

I'LL JUST MAKE A NOTE OF THAT -- SEND OUT SURVEYORS EARLY NEXT YEAR.
NOT NEXT YEAR -- RIGHT NOW.


NOW ? BUT -- BUT WE DON'T OWN IT YET.
SO WHAT ? WE WILL IN A FEW MONTHS. SEND OUT THE SURVEYORS.


MOST OF THE INHABITANTS OF THE RED RIVER SETTLEMENT ARE ANGRY WHEN THEY HEAR THE NEWS :
< WE'VE BEEN SOLD ? >*
< WHAT IF WE WANTED TO TO JOIN THE STATES ? >
* THESE BRACKETS IN A WORD-BALLOON SIGNIFY THAT THE PERSON INDICATED IS SPEAKING IN FRENCH (OR THINKING IN FRENCH IF THE WORDS ARE IN A THOUGHT-BALLOON).

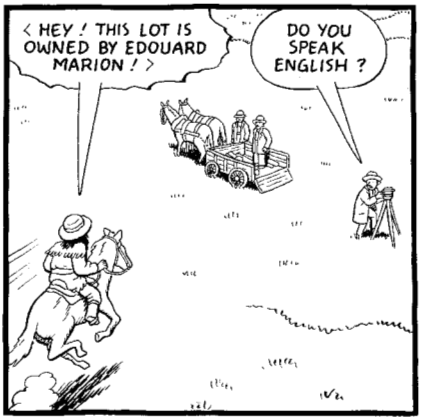
< WHAT IF WE DIDN'T WANT TO JOIN ANYONE ? >
< WHO SAYS THAT THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY OWNED ALL THIS LAND ? >


< MY ANCESTORS WERE HERE LONG BEFORE THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY WAS ! >
< MINE TOO ! >
< WHY SHOULD THEY GET ALL THAT MONEY ? >

< HOW CAN IT BE THAT A BUNCH OF BUSINESSMEN IN ENGLAND CAN DECIDE WHAT HAPPENS TO THE LAND THAT WE LIVE ON ? >
< I'VE HEARD THAT THE NEW GOVERNING COUNCIL IS GOING TO BE ALL ENGLISH. >

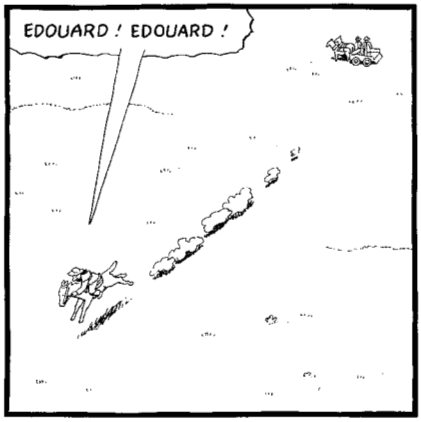
< THAT'S NOT ALL -- THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR THAT THEY'RE GOING TO APPOINT IS AN ORANGEMAN ! >

OCTOBER 11, 1869 :
< IT'S ONE OF THOSE CANADIAN SURVEY TEAMS ! >

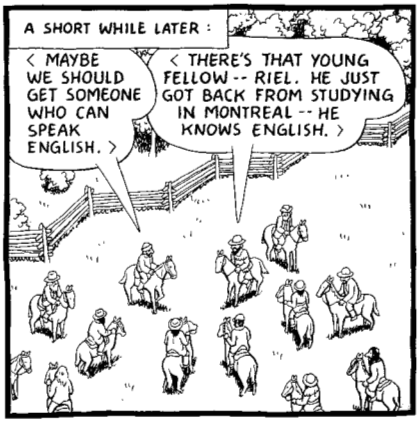

< HEY ! THIS LOT IS OWNED BY EDOUARD MARION ! >
DO YOU SPEAK ENGLISH ?

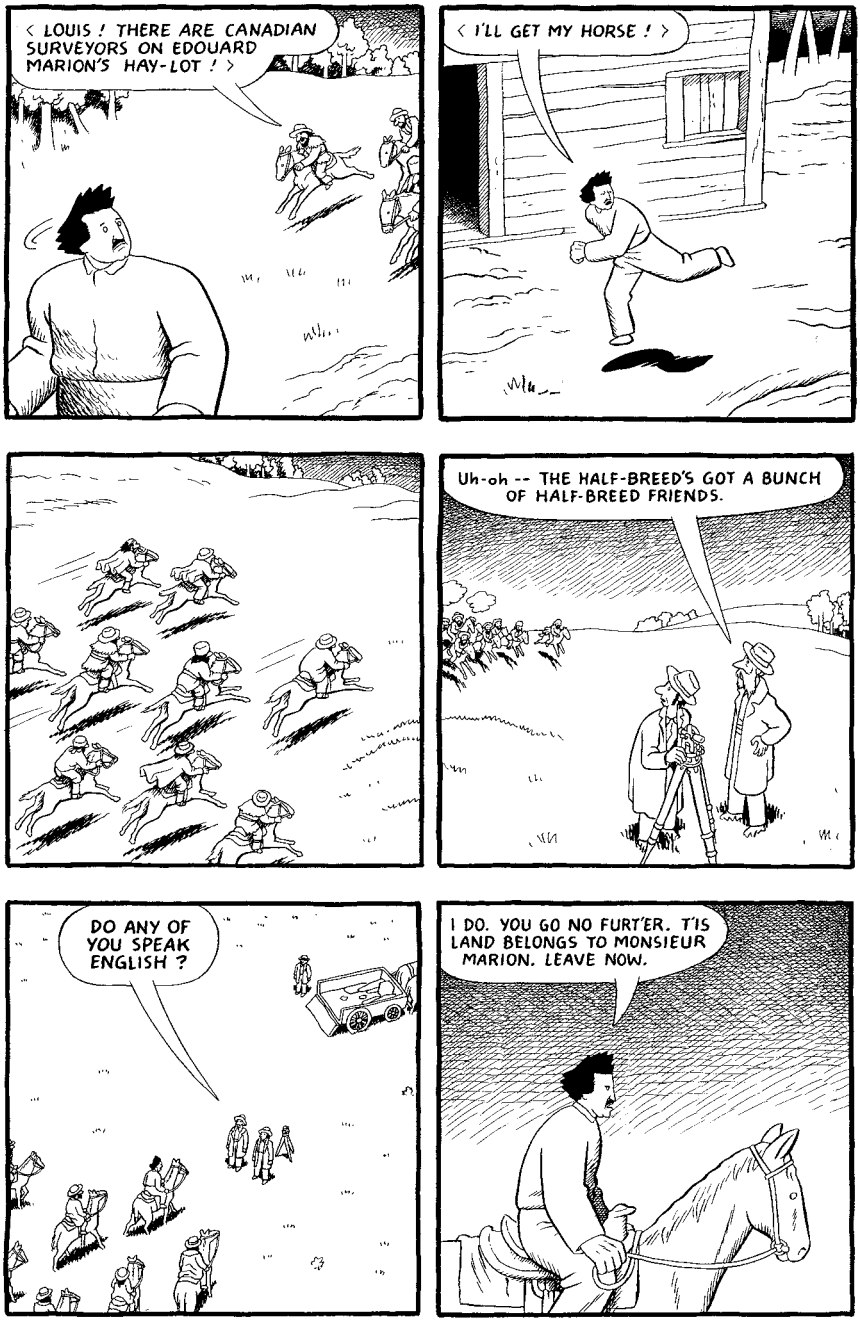
< YOU'VE GOT NO BUSINESS HERE ! GET OFF THIS LAND ! >
I DON'T THINK HE SPEAKS ENGLISH.

< YOU'RE TRESPASSING ! >
JUST IGNORE HIM.


EDOUARD ! EDOUARD !

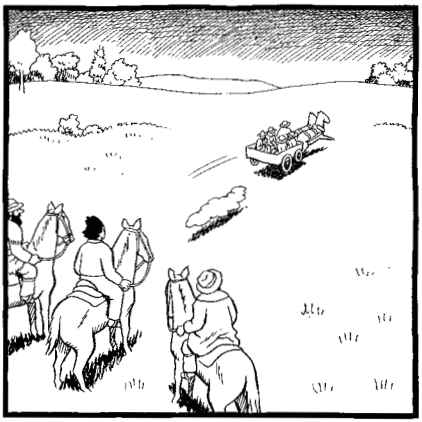
< THERE'S A CANADIAN SURVEY TEAM ON YOUR HAY-LOT ! I TOLD THEM TO LEAVE BUT THEY WOULDN'T ! >
TABERNAC. < LET'S ROUND UP SOME SUPPORT. >


A SHORT WHILE LATER :
< MAYBE WE SHOULD GET SOMEONE WHO CAN SPEAK ENGLISH. >
< THERE'S THAT YOUNG FELLOW -- RIEL. HE JUST GOT BACK FROM STUDYING IN MONTREAL -- HE KNOWS ENGLISH. >

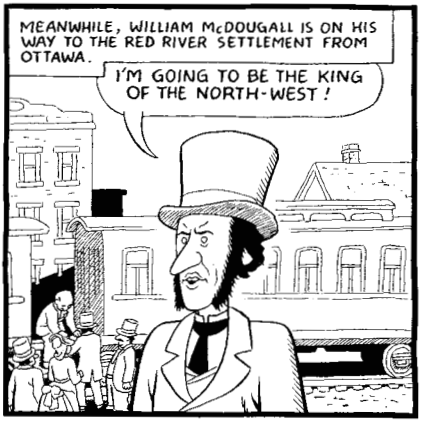

< LOUIS ! THERE ARE CANADIAN SURVEYORS ON EDOUARD MARION'S HAY-LOT ! >
< I'LL GET MY HORSE ! >
Uh-oh -- THE HALF-BREED'S GOT A BUNCH OF HALF-BREED FRIENDS.
DO ANY OF YOU SPEAK ENGLISH ?
I DO. YOU GO NO FURT'ER. T'IS LAND BELONGS TO MONSIEUR MARION. LEAVE NOW.

WHAT'RE WE GOING TO DO, COLONEL DENNIS ?

WE'RE GOING.



< WE'D BETTER START ORGANIZING OURSELVES. >


MEANWHILE, WILLIAM McDOUGALL IS ON HIS WAY TO THE RED RIVER SETTLEMENT FROM OTTAWA.
I'M GOING TO BE THE KING OF THE NORTH-WEST !

THERE ARE NO DIRECT ROADS OR RAIL-LINES FROM CANADA TO THE RED RIVER SETTLEMENT, SO McDOUGALL HAS TO TRAVEL THROUGH THE UNITED STATES.