

Why did not the Prime Minister, in drafting this resolution, include that portion of section 3 of the Act of 1871? There is no doubt that such a clause should be incorporated in this resolution, if the increase of territory does affect in any way the status of the other provinces of this Dominion. Here we have an addition of territory given to the province of Manitoba of 180,000 square miles, to the province of Ontario of 140,000 square miles, and to the province of Quebec of 466,000 square miles. Whose property is this? Has it any value? Where is it? As has been stated by the leader of the opposition, we have had no maps placed on the table of this House to show the members where this land is. We know in a general way that there is a lot of land lying to the north of the province of Quebec, but we have no evidence of the value of that land. We have no evidence of the value of the land to be conceded to the province of Ontario. Before this resolution passes, I think the Prime Minister or some member of his government should inform the members of this House, in order that they may vote intelligently on this matter, what the value of this property is. Is it worth \$1,000,000? Some years ago the United States of America bought some territory in Alaska from the Russian government, paying a very small sum of money for it; it was not considered of very great value. Since then that territory has developed rich mines, worth, it is stated, a billion dollars of money. What may be the effect of the exploration of this great country to the north? I understand that Ungava and Keewatin have never been explored; and it may be that when these lands have been explored within the next twenty or twenty-five years, they may become of incalculable value to the provinces to which they are granted by this parliament. These lands are owned by the whole Dominion of Canada; and if they have a value at the present time, the government which is introducing this measure should be able to tell parliament what their value is and to some extent what their prospective value is. Without that information this resolution should not pass. If the other provinces are affected by this resolution, they are affected not only in a monetary way, but also in their representation in this parliament. Quebec, the pivotal province on which the representation is based, will receive this large addition of 466,000 square miles to its territory. This land may within the next few years be teeming with population. You know that years ago it was stated that Manitoba and the Northwest would never be inhabited; yet I believe that within a very few years the greater part of the population of this country will be living in those western provinces. It may be that a million will be added to the population of Ungava and

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Keewatin within the next twenty or twenty-five years. The effect of that will be that the representation in this House of the maritime provinces, whose territories cannot be increased, will be greatly diminished. As was stated by the Minister of Finance, the possibility is that within twenty or twenty-five years, as a result of the increase of population in these new territories, the representation of the province of Prince Edward Island will be diminished to only one. In view of these considerations, we should have conceded to us the representation which we had when we joined the union. I would say further that if these lands, which are to be added to the territories of Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba, are of any value, all the other provinces which are in any way interested in them, or which are in any way affected by these additions, should receive a proportionate share of the money value of the lands. That should be conceded to them in the final settlement of this matter, when the Bill comes up in parliament at the next or some future session, in accordance with the resolution and the amendment which are before the House.

Mr. GEORGE W. FOWLER (Kings and Albert). Mr. Speaker, while I am in favour of the amendment proposed by the hon. member for Colchester (Mr. Stanfield), I think that it does not go quite far enough in the direction of meting out justice to the provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, better known as the maritime provinces. These provinces had a certain representation at the time of confederation. The fathers of confederation in their wisdom thought that there was no danger of our population not keeping pace with the population of Quebec, or falling so far below it that a portion of our federal representation would be lost. Unfortunately that has not proved to be the case; and but for the fathers of confederation resting upon that idea, some such provision would have been inserted in the British North America Act with reference to those provinces as was afterwards inserted with reference to British Columbia when that province came into confederation, namely, that the representation of British Columbia in the federal House was not to fall below what it was at the time the union was consummated. A similar provision should have been inserted with regard to the maritime provinces; but unfortunately it was not. The principle reason why in the last census the maritime provinces did not show an increase proportionate to that of the province of Quebec is that many people from the maritime provinces, perhaps more largely in proportion than from any other part of Canada, have gone to the Northwest and are helping to build up that country.

When we contribute to the west, as we are